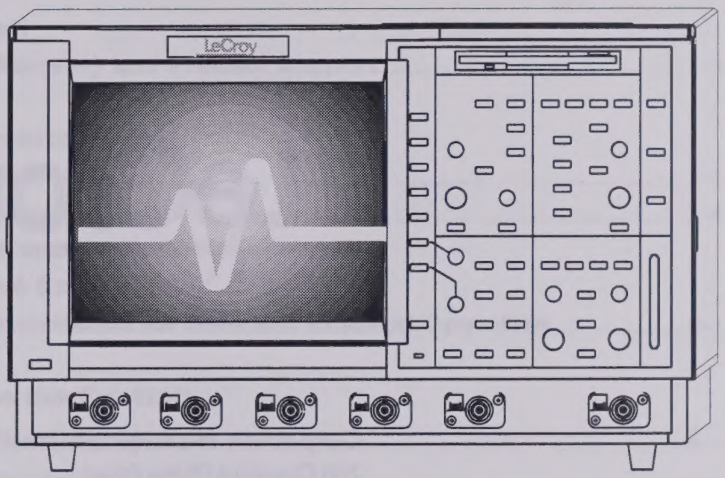
LeCroy™ Digital Oscilloscopes

Get the Complete Picture

Operator's Manual LC Series Color Digital Oscilloscopes

LeCroy



Operator's Manual

LeCroy
LC Series Color
Digital Oscilloscopes

Revision H — January 1999

Corporate Headquarters
700 Chestnut Ridge Road
Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977–6499
Tel: (914) 578 6020, Fax: (914) 578 5985

European Manufacturing
2, rue du Pré-de-la-Fontaine
1217 Meyrin 1/Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: (41) 22 719 21 11, Fax: (41) 22 782 39 15

Internet: www.lecroy.com

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LeCroy National Contacts

Warranty and Product Support

It is recommended that you thoroughly inspect the contents of the oscilloscope packaging immediately upon receipt. Check all contents against the packing list/invoice copy shipped with the instrument (*and the list on page 1–3*). Unless LeCroy is notified promptly of any missing or damaged item, responsibility for its replacement cannot be accepted. Contact your nearest LeCroy Customer Service Center or national distributor immediately (*contact numbers follow index*).

Warranty

LeCroy warrants its oscilloscope products for normal use and operation within specifications for a period of three years from the date of shipment. Calibration each year is recommended to ensure in-spec. performance. Spares, replacement parts and repairs are warranted for 90 days. The instrument's firmware has been thoroughly tested and is thought to be functional, but is supplied without warranty of any kind covering detailed performance. Products not made by LeCroy are covered solely by the warranty of the original equipment manufacturer.

Under the LeCroy warranty, LeCroy will repair or, at its option, replace any product returned within the warranty period to a LeCroy authorized service center. However, this will be done only if the product is determined after examination by LeCroy to be defective due to workmanship or materials, and not to have been caused by misuse, neglect or accident, or by abnormal conditions or operation.

***Note:** This warranty replaces all other warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to any implied warranty of merchantability, fitness, or adequacy for any particular purpose or use. LeCroy shall not be liable for any special, incidental, or consequential damages, whether in contract or otherwise. The client will be responsible for the transportation and insurance charges for the return of products to the service facility. LeCroy will return all products under warranty with transport prepaid.*

Product Assistance

Help on installation, calibration, and the use of LeCroy equipment is available from the LeCroy Customer Service Center in your country (*see contact numbers following the index*).

Maintenance Agreements

LeCroy provides a variety of customer support services under Maintenance Agreements. Such agreements give extended warranty and allow clients to budget maintenance costs after the initial three-year warranty has expired. Other services such as installation, training, enhancements and on-site repairs are available through special supplemental support agreements.

Staying Up to Date

LeCroy is dedicated to offering state-of-the-art instruments, by continually refining and improving the performance of LeCroy products. Because of the speed with which physical modifications may be implemented, this manual and related documentation may not agree in every detail with the products they describe. For example, there might be small discrepancies in the values of components affecting pulse shape, timing or offset, and — infrequently — minor logic changes. However, be assured the scope itself is in full order and incorporates the most up-to-date circuitry.

LeCroy frequently updates firmware and software during servicing to improve scope performance, free of charge during warranty. You will be kept informed of such changes, through new or revised manuals and other publications.

Nevertheless, you should retain this, the original manual, for future reference to your scope's unchanged hardware specifications.

Service and Repair

Please return products requiring maintenance to the Customer Service Department in your country or to an authorized service facility. The customer is responsible for transportation charges to the factory, whereas all in-warranty products will be returned to you with transportation prepaid. Outside the warranty period, you will need to provide us with a purchase order number before we can repair your LeCroy product. You will be billed for parts and labor related to the repair work, and for shipping.

How to Return a Product Contact the nearest LeCroy Service Center or office to find out where to return the product. All returned products should be identified by model and serial number. You should describe the defect or failure, and provide your name and contact number. In the case of a product returned to the factory, a Return Authorization Number (RAN) should be used. The RAN can be obtained by contacting the Customer Service Department.

Return shipments should be made prepaid. We cannot accept COD (Cash On Delivery) or Collect Return shipments. We recommend air-freighting.

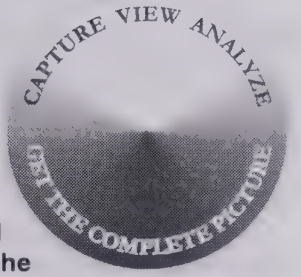
It is important that the RAN be clearly shown on the outside of the shipping package for prompt redirection to the appropriate LeCroy department.

What Comes with Your Scope The following items are shipped together with the standard configuration of this oscilloscope:

- Front Scope Cover
- 10:1 10 MΩ PP005 Passive Probe — *one per channel*
- ProBus™ Single-Channel Adapter ***NOT APPLICABLE FOR LC374, LC564 OR LC584 SERIES***
- *Two* 250 V Fuses
- AC Power Cord and Plug
- *Operator's Manual*
- *Remote Control Manual*
- *Hands-On Guide*
- Performance Certificate or Calibration Certificate
- Declaration of Conformity
- Warranty

***Note:** Wherever possible, please use the original shipping carton. If a substitute carton is used, it should be rigid and packed so that that the product is surrounded by a minimum of four inches or 10 cm of shock-absorbent material.*

Instrument Architecture Overview



Each of the four channels of a LeCroy LC Color Digital Storage Oscilloscope (DSO) has one or more eight-bit Analog–to–Digital Converters (ADCs). Combining channels by interleaving ADCs will substantially increase both the instrument's acquisition memory and sampling rate.

Processors

The central processor (CPU), a PowerPC® microprocessor, performs the oscilloscope's computations and controls its operation. A wide range of peripheral interfaces allow remote control, storage of waveforms and other data, and printing. A support processor constantly monitors the front-panel controls. Data processing is fast, with data either transferred to display memory for direct waveform display or stored in reference memories (*see below*).

***Note:** Wherever a feature is specific or inapplicable to particular model or series of models, the exception is indicated as, for example: LC564 AND LC584 SERIES ONLY.*

See Appendix A for each model's complete specifications.

ADCs

The instrument's ADC architecture is designed to give excellent amplitude and phase correlation, maximum analog–to–digital conversion performance, large record lengths and superior time resolution.

Memories

The long acquisition memories simplify signal acquisition by producing waveform records that allow detailed analysis over large time intervals. Combining two or four channels (*FOUR-CHANNEL COMBINING NOT AVAILABLE ON LC564 SERIES*) allows further increases in acquisition memory length. There are four

memories for temporary storage, and four more for waveform zooming and processing.

RIS

Repetitive signals can be acquired and stored at a Random Interleaved Sampling (RIS) rate of 10 GS/s for all models except ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, whose RIS rate is 25 GS/s. Moreover, this advanced digitizing technique enables measurement of repetitive signals with an effective sampling interval of 100 ps, or 40 ps for ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, and a measurement resolution of up to 10 ps. *See Chapter 7.*

Trigger System

Triggering can be controlled to a highly specialized degree in accordance with waveform characteristics and chosen trigger conditions. Menus and controls enable the selection and setting of parameters such as pre- and post-trigger recording, and of sequence and roll modes. The trigger source can be any of the input channels, line (synchronized to scope's main input supply) or external. The coupling is selected from AC, LF REJect, HF REJect, HF, and DC; the slope from positive and negative. The SMART Trigger® types offer a wide range of sophisticated trigger modes matched to special trigger conditions and sets of conditions. *See Chapter 8.*

Automatic Calibration

The oscilloscope's automatic calibration ensures an overall vertical accuracy of typically 1% of full scale. Vertical gain and offset calibration, and horizontal (time) resolution, take place each time the volts per division setting is modified. In addition, periodic and temperature-dependent autocalibration ensures long-term stability at the current setting.

Display System

The display's interactive, user-friendly interface is controlled by push-buttons and knobs to display as many as eight different waveforms at once. The parameters controlling signal acquisition are simultaneously reported. The screen presents internal status and measurement results, as well as operational, measurement, and waveform-analysis menus. *See Chapters 4 and 16.*

The large display area, set in a 10-inch Raster Scan CRT, VGA (Video Graphics Array), presents waveforms and data using Advanced Color Management. Overlap-mixing and contrast-enhancement functions ensure that overlapping waveforms

remain distinct at all times. Both pre-set and personal color schemes are available. *See Chapter 11.*

The Analog Persistence™ function offers display attributes of an analog instrument with all the advantages of digital technology. The Full Screen function expands waveform grids to fill the entire screen. S*ee Chapter 11.*

A hard copy of the screen can be easily produced at any time by pressing the front-panel screen-dump button (*see Chapter 12*).

Direct or...

This is a truly digital instrument. Nevertheless the front-panel layout and controls will be familiar to users of analog oscilloscopes (*see Chapter 4*). Rapid response and instant representation of waveforms on the high-resolution screen add to this impression.

Four front-panel setups can be stored internally and recalled either directly or by remote control, thus ensuring rapid front-panel configuration. When power is switched off, the current front-panel settings are automatically stored for subsequent recall at the next power-on. *See Chapter 15.*

...Remote Control

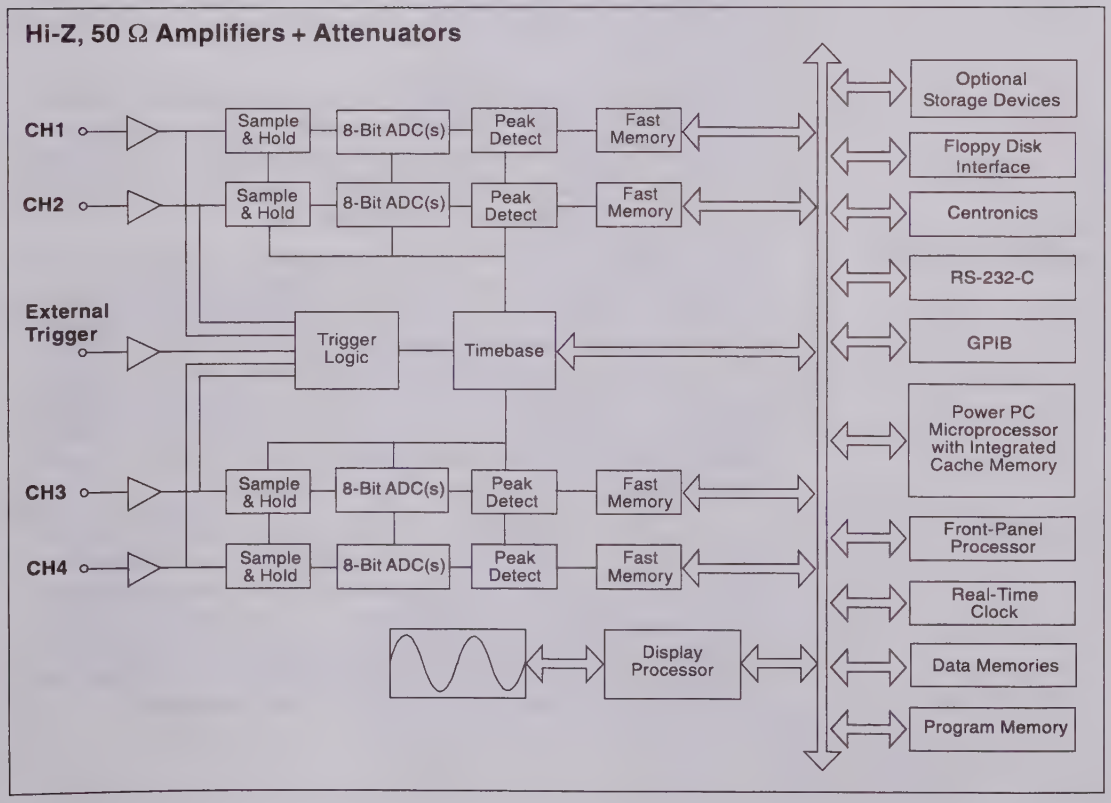
The oscilloscope has also been designed for remote control operation in automated testing and computer-aided measurement applications. The entire measurement process, including cursor and pulse-parameter settings, dynamic modification of front-panel settings, and display organization, is controlled through the rear-panel industry-standard GPIB (IEEE-488) and standard RS-232-C ports whose connection or serial port are present on most of today's personal computers. For further details, please consult your remote control manual. *See the "Remote Control Manual".*

Scope Explorer

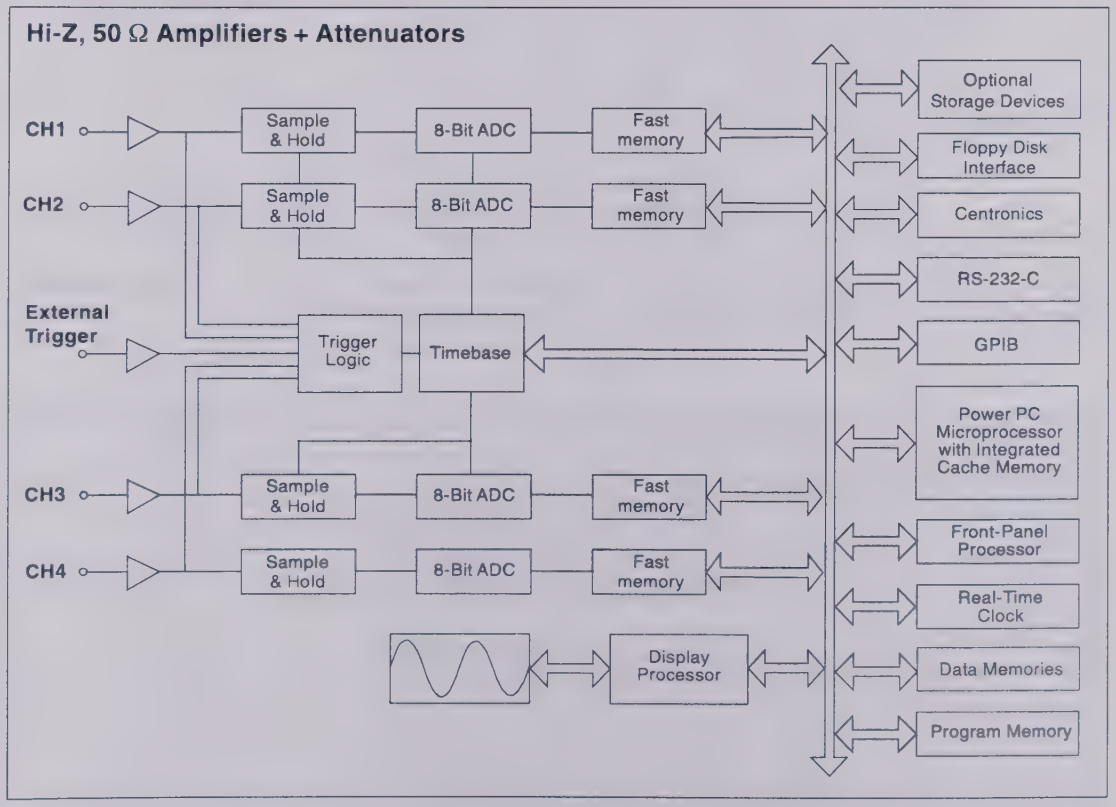
Also via GPIB and RS-232-C, the *Scope Explorer* software integrates the oscilloscope with Windows 95 and Windows NT desktop. It offers user-friendly remote control of the oscilloscope, copy of the display into Windows, and the recording to and storage in the PC of front-panel setups, which can then be transferred back to the oscilloscope. *See Chapter 12 and the "Hands-On Guide" for more on PC and other interfaces.*

Block Diagrams

- ***LC334 Series***
- ***LC374 Series***
- ***LC534 Series***
- ***LC574 Series***



- ***LC564 Series***
- ***LC584 Series***



Installation for Safe and Efficient Operation

For safe operation of the oscilloscope to its specifications, ensure that the operating environment is maintained within the following parameters:

Operating Environment

- Temperature .....5 to 40 °C (41 to 104 °F)
- Humidity.....< 80 % non condensing
- Altitude.....< 2000 m (6560 ft);
  LC564 AND LC584 SERIES < 4600 m (15 090 ft)

The oscilloscope has been qualified to the following EN61010-1 category:

- Protection Class..... I
- Installation (Overvoltage) Category..... II
- Pollution Degree..... 2

Safety Symbols

Where the following symbols or indications appear on the instrument's front or rear panels, or elsewhere in this manual, they alert the user to an aspect of safety.

Symbol	Meaning
	CAUTION: Refer to accompanying documents (for Safety-related information). ***See elsewhere in this manual wherever the symbol is present, as indicated in the Table of Contents.***
	CAUTION: Risk of electric shock.
	On (Supply)
	Off (Supply)

Symbol	Meaning
	Earth (Ground) Terminal
	Protective Conductor Terminal
	Alternating Current Only
	Chassis Terminal.
	Earth (Ground) Terminal on BNC Connectors.
WARNING	Denotes a hazard. If a WARNING is indicated on the instrument, do not proceed until its conditions are understood and met (*see also* CAUTION).

WARNING

Any use of this instrument in a manner not specified by the manufacturer may impair the instrument's safety protection.

The oscilloscope has *not* been designed to make direct measurements on the human body. Users who connect a LeCroy oscilloscope directly to a person do so at their own risk. Use only indoors.

Power Requirements

The oscilloscope operates from a 115 V (90 to 132 V) or 220 V (180 to 250 V) AC (~) power source at 45 Hz to 66 Hz.

No voltage selection is required, since the instrument automatically adapts to the line voltage present.

Fuses

The power supply of the oscilloscope is protected against short-circuit and overload by means of two "T"-rated 250 V AC fuses, located above the mains plug.

Disconnect the power cord before inspecting or replacing a fuse. Open the fuse box by inserting a small screwdriver under the plastic cover and prying it open. For continued fire protection at all line voltages, replace only with fuses of the specified type and rating (*see above).*

Ground

The oscilloscope has been designed to operate from a single-phase power source, with one of the current-carrying conductors (neutral conductor) at ground (earth) potential. Maintain the ground line to avoid an electric shock.

None of the current-carrying conductors may exceed 250 V rms with respect to ground potential. The oscilloscope is provided with a three-wire electrical cord containing a three-terminal polarized plug for mains voltage and safety ground connection. The plug's ground terminal is connected directly to the frame of the unit. For adequate protection against electrical hazard, this plug must be inserted into a mating outlet containing a safety ground contact.

Cleaning and Maintenance

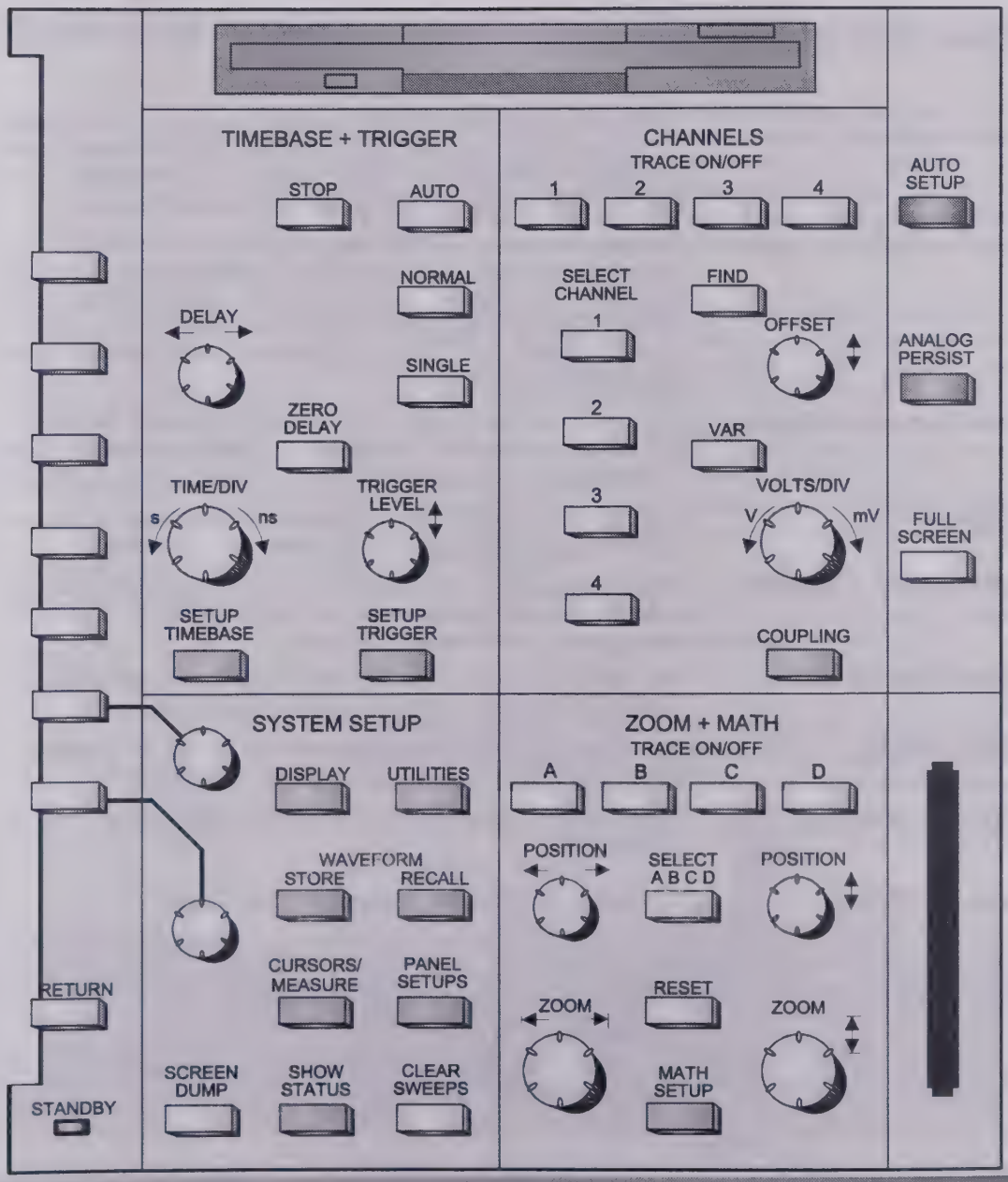
Maintenance and repairs should be carried out exclusively by a LeCroy technician (*see Chapter 1*). Cleaning should be limited to the exterior of the instrument only, using a damp, soft cloth. Do not use chemicals or abrasive elements. Under no circumstances should moisture be allowed to penetrate the oscilloscope. To avoid electric shocks, disconnect the instrument from the power supply before cleaning.

CAUTION

Risk of electrical shock: No user-serviceable parts inside. Leave repair to qualified personnel.

Power On

Connect the oscilloscope to the power outlet and switch it on using the power On/Off button, located near the left-hand corner of the instrument below the screen. After the instrument is switched on, auto-calibration is performed and a test of the oscilloscope's ADCs and memories is carried out. The full testing procedure takes approximately 10 seconds, after which time a display will appear on the screen.


TIMEBASE + TRIGGER
STOP
AUTO
NORMAL
DELAY
SINGLE
ZERO DELAY
TIME/DIV
s
ns
TRIGGER LEVEL
SETUP TIMEBASE
SETUP TRIGGER
CHANNELS
TRACE ON/OFF
1
2
3
4
SELECT CHANNEL
FIND
OFFSET
VAR
VOLTS/DIV
V
mV
COUPLING
AUTO SETUP
ANALOG PERSIST
FULL SCREEN
SYSTEM SETUP
DISPLAY
UTILITIES
WAVEFORM
STORE
RECALL
CURSORS/ MEASURE
PANEL SETUPS
SCREEN DUMP
SHOW STATUS
CLEAR SWEEPS
RETURN
STANDBY
ZOOM + MATH
TRACE ON/OFF
A
B
C
D
POSITION
SELECT A B C D
POSITION
ZOOM
RESET
ZOOM
MATH SETUP

The Main Controls

The front-panel controls are divided into four main groups of buttons and knobs: the SYSTEM SETUP and menu controls, CHANNELS, TIMEBASE + TRIGGER and ZOOM + MATH. Other buttons access special features.

SYSTEM SETUP — Dark-gray menu-*entry* buttons, also represented in the other groups of controls, provide access to the main on-screen menus and the instrument's acquisition, processing and display modes. The SCREEN DUMP and CLEAR SWEEPS buttons copy or print the screen display, and restart operations that require several acquisitions. *See page 4–5.*

Menu Buttons & Knobs — The seven untitled buttons vertically aligned beside the screen, RETURN and the two linked rotary knobs enable on-screen menu selection. *See following pages.*

CHANNELS — This group of controls offers selection of displayed traces and adjustment of vertical sensitivity and offset. *See Chapter 5.*

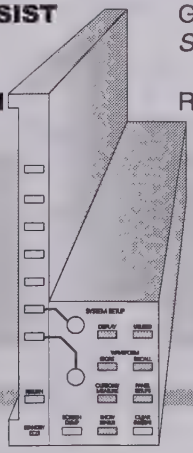
TIMEBASE + TRIGGER — These controls allow direct adjustment of time/division, trigger level and delay, as well as access to the "TIMEBASE" and "TRIGGER" menu groups. *See Chapters 6, 7 and 8.*

ZOOM + MATH — This group controls trace selection, movement, definition, and expansion with Zoom and Math functions. *See Chapters 9 and 10.*

AUTO SETUP — Blue button that automatically adjusts the scope to acquire and display signals on the active input channels. *See page 4–6.*

ANALOG PERSIST — Green button that accesses the unique Analog Persistence™ feature. *See Chapter 11.*

FULL SCREEN — Redraws the grid to fill the entire screen. *See Chapter 11.*

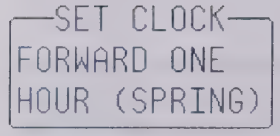


See also:

"Getting Started", Part 2 of the Hands-On Guide for more on the front-panel and a complete run-through of the controls...

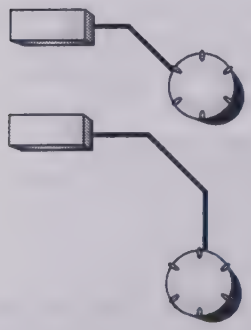
Choosing and Navigating in Menus

On-screen menus — the panels running down the right-hand side of the screen — are used to select specific scope actions and settings. All other on-screen text is for information only. The menus are broadly grouped according to function. The name of each menu group is shown at the top of the column of menus. Individual menus also have names in the top of their frames.



Each menu either contains a list of items or options — functions to be selected or variables modified — or when selected performs a specific action. Menus that perform actions are indicated by capitalized text, *as in the example shown at left.*

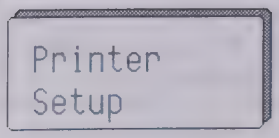
Going to Menus and Selecting from them



When a menu-*entry* button is pressed, the set-up configuration for its particular group of functions is immediately displayed on-screen as a menu group. Once accessed, these menus are controlled using the menu buttons and the two menu knobs (*illustrated at left*).

A menu button is active and can be pressed to make selections whenever a menu is visible beside it on-screen.

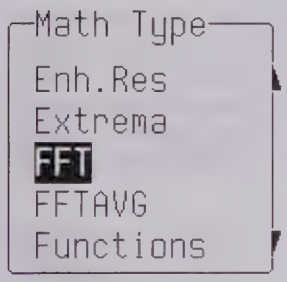
The two menu knobs work together with the two menu buttons to which they are joined by lines. Both control the menus currently shown beside them. Buttons and knobs are used either for selecting entire menus, particular items from menus, for moving up or down through menu lists, or for changing the values listed in menus.

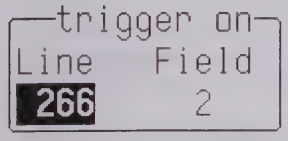


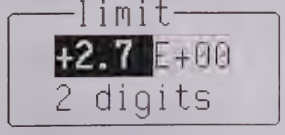
Some menus have others beneath them whose presence is indicated by a heavy outline or shadow on the upper menu, *as illustrated at left.* Pressing the corresponding menu button reveals the lower menu. Pressing the RETURN button again displays the upper one.

Changing a menu value normally changes the screen, as the new value is immediately used in acquisition settings, processing or display.

Setting Menu Options







The activated selection is highlighted in the menu. Press the corresponding menu button and the field will advance to highlight and select the next item on the menu. However, if there is only one item on a menu, pressing its button will have no effect.

Where a menu is associated with one of the two menu knobs, turning this knob in one direction or the other will cause the selection to move either up or down the list in the menu.

Menus that extend along the length of two menu buttons can be operated using both buttons. Pressing the lower of the two will move the highlighting forward — down the list — while pushing the upper will move the selector back up the list.

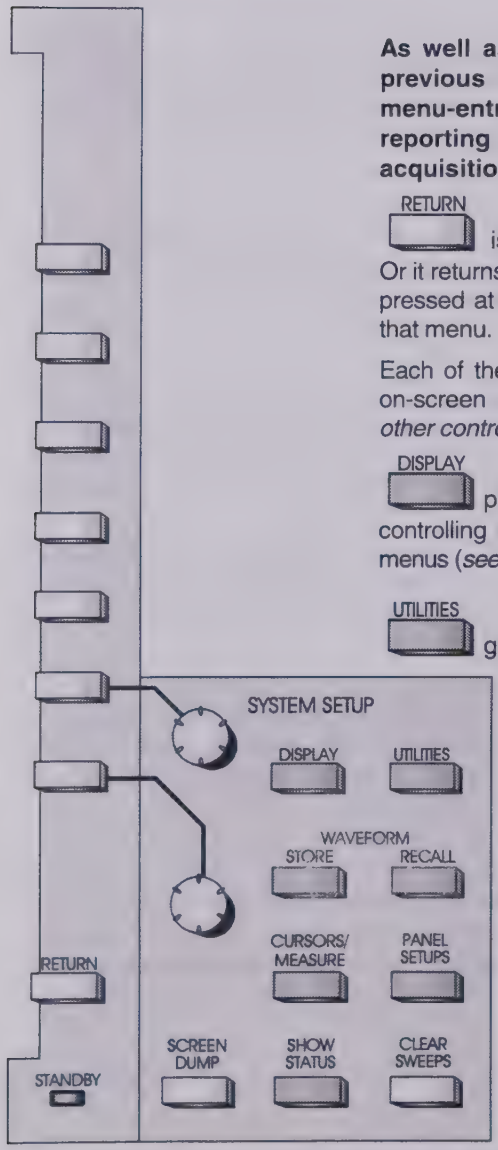
An arrow on the side of a menu frame indicates that by pressing the button beside this arrow, the selection can be moved further up or down the list. The arrow's direction shows whether the highlighting selector will move up or down. Arrows may also indicate items that are not visible, either above or below on the list. The respective arrow will disappear when the selection is at the very beginning or end of the list.

As in the examples at left, some menu button and knob combinations control the value of a continuously adjustable variable. The knob is then used to set its value, while the button either selects a value or makes a simple change in it.

Still other menu button and knob combinations control the value of several continuously adjustable variables, with the knob used to set the value and the button to highlight it.

***Note:** When the oscilloscope is placed in a remote state, the REMOTE ENABLE menu will be displayed. It will contain the command "GO TO LOCAL", activated by menu button if the action is possible. This is the only manual way to turn off the REMOTE ENABLE menu. The scope need not be in remote state to accept remote commands.*

SYSTEM SETUP and Menu Controls



As well as the menu buttons and knobs described on the previous pages, the SYSTEM SETUP controls include the menu-entry buttons and others for copying displays, reporting instrument status and restarting multiple-acquisition operations.

RETURN is used to go back to the preceding displayed menu group. Or it returns the display to a higher-level, or primary menu. But when pressed at the highest possible menu level, the button switches off that menu.

Each of the dark-gray menu-entry buttons activates a major set of on-screen menus (*those menu-entry buttons represented in the other control groups are described in the following chapters*).

DISPLAY provides entry to the "DISPLAY SETUP" group of menus, controlling display mode, grids, intensities, Dot Join and Persistence menus (*see Chapter 11*).

UTILITIES gives access to the "UTILITIES" menus, controlling hardcopy setups, GPIB addresses and special modes of operation (*see Chapter 12*).

WAVEFORM STORE accesses the "STORE W'FORM" menus, used for storing waveforms to internal or external memory (*see Chapter 13*).

WAVEFORM RECALL calls up "RECALL W'FORM" menus for retrieving waveforms stored in internal or external memory (*see Chapter 13*).

While CURSORS/ MEASURE offers up the "CURSORS" Setup menus, used for making precise cursor measurements on traces, and "MEASURE", for

precise parameter measurements and pass/fail testing (*see Chapter 14*).

PANEL SETUPS gives access to the "PANEL SETUPS" menus for saving and recalling a configuration of the instrument (*see Chapter 13*).

SHOW STATUS

And gives menu entry to "STATUS", which shows summaries of the instrument's status for acquisition, system and other aspects (*see Chapter 16*)

SCREEN DUMP

SCREEN DUMP

Prints or plots the screen display to an on-line hardcopy device, via the GPIB, RS-232-C or Centronics interface ports, or directly to a built-in thermal graphics printer. Hardcopies can also be generated as data files onto floppy, memory card or portable hard disk.

Once SCREEN DUMP is pressed, *all* displayed information will be copied. However, it is possible to copy the waveforms without the grid by turning the grid intensity to 0 with the "Display Setup" menu.

While a screen dump is taking place — indicated by the on-screen "PRINTING" or "PLOTTING" message — it can be aborted by pressing SCREEN DUMP a second time. It make take a certain amount of time for the buffer to empty before copying stops. *See Chapter 12.*

CLEAR SWEEPS

CLEAR SWEEPS

Restarts operations requiring several acquisitions, or sweeps, including averaging, extrema, persistence, parameter statistics and pass/fail testing, by resetting the sweep counter(s) to zero.

Pressing the singular, blue AUTO SETUP button automatically scales the timebase, trigger level, offset, and volts/div to provide a stable display of repetitive signals.

This button operates only on *active* channels. If no channels are switched on, and no signals are detected, AUTO SETUP will operate on *all* channels, switching all of them on. If signals are detected on several channels, the channel with the lowest number will determine which timebase and trigger source is selected for setup.

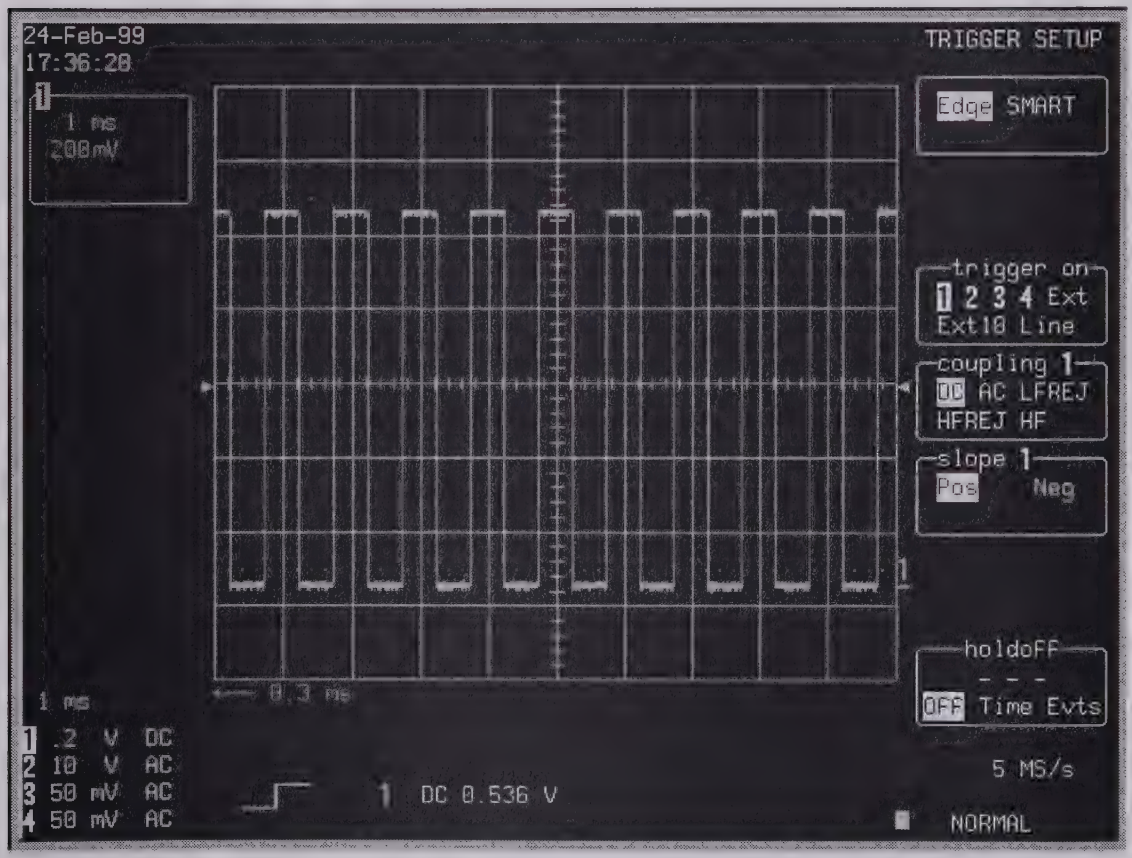
Signals detected must have an amplitude of between 5 mV and 40 V, a frequency greater than 50 Hz and a duty cycle of more than 0.1%.

Resetting the Scope

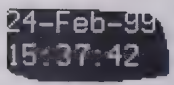
To perform a general reset of the instrument, simultaneously press the AUTO SETUP, top menu and RETURN buttons:

The scope will revert to its default power-up settings.

Screen Topography

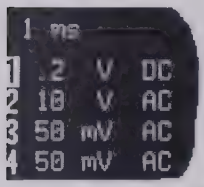


The sections of the screen shown here and described below, which surround the grid, contain a variety of useful information as well as accessing specific commands and functions.



Real-Time Clock field: powered by a battery-backed real-time clock, it displays the current date and time.

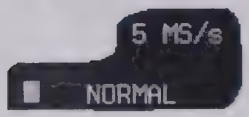
Displayed Trace Label indicates each channel or channel displayed, the time/div and volts/div settings, and cursor readings where appropriate. It indicates the acquisition parameters set when the trace was captured or processed, while the Acquisition Summary field (below) indicates the present setting.



Acquisition Summary field: timebase, volts/div, probe attenuation and coupling for each channel, with the selected channel highlighted. It indicates the present setting, while the acquisition parameters set when the trace was captured or processed are indicated in the Displayed Trace label (above).

Trigger Level arrows on both sides of the grid that mark the trigger voltage level relative to ground level.

Trigger Delay: an arrow indicating the trigger time relative to the trace.



Trigger Status field shows sample rate and trigger re-arming status (AUTO, NORMAL, SINGLE, STOPPED). The small square icon flashes to indicate that an acquisition has been made.

Trigger Configuration field: icon indicating type of trigger, and information on the trigger's source, slope, level and coupling, and other information when appropriate.

Trace and Ground Level: trace number and ground-level marker.

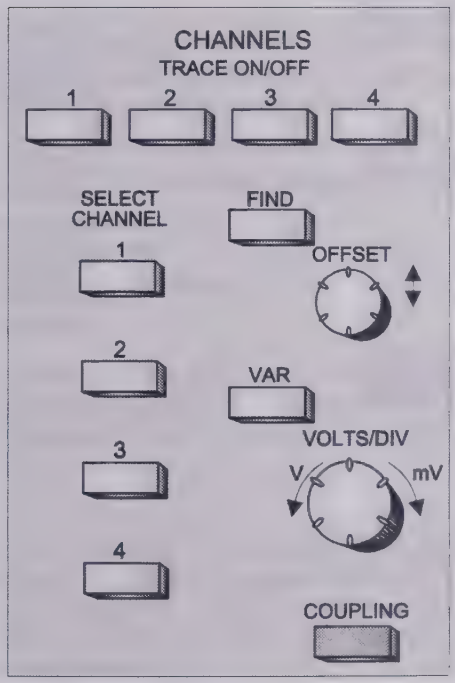
Other Screen Regions
(*not shown*)

Time and Frequency field: displays time and frequency relative to cursors beneath the grid. For example, when the absolute time cursor (the cross-hair) is activated by selection from the "MEASURE" menu group, this field displays the time between the cursor and the trigger point.

Message field: used to display a variety of messages, above the grid, including warnings, indications and titles showing the instrument's current status.

Channel Controls

These controls enable selection of displayed traces and the adjustment of vertical sensitivity and offset.

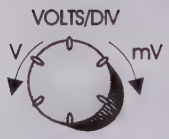


TRACE ON/OFF Pressing these buttons either displays or switches off the corresponding channel trace. When a channel is switched on, OFFSET and VOLTS/DIV controls will then be attributed to this, the *active* channel.

SELECT CHANNEL These buttons are used to attribute all the vertical controls to the one channel, regardless of the channel displayed. The selected channel number is highlighted in the Acquisition Summary field (*see previous chapter*).

FIND — automatically adjusts offset and volts/div to match the active channel's input signal.

OFFSET This knob vertically positions the active channel.



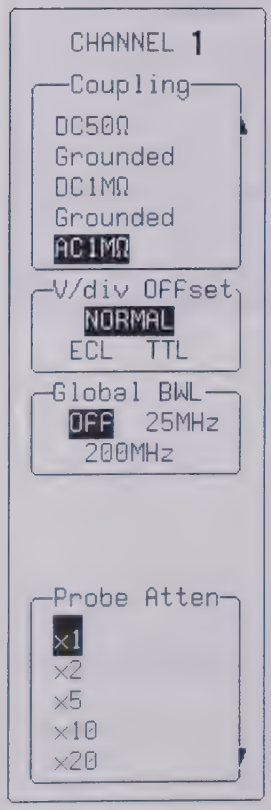
— selects the vertical sensitivity factor either in a 1–2–5 sequence or continuously (*see VAR, below*). The effect of gain changes on the acquisition offset can be chosen from the "SPECIAL MODES" menu.

— allows the user to determine whether the VOLTS/DIV knob will modify the vertical sensitivity in a continuous manner or in discrete 1–2–5 steps.

The format of the vertical sensitivity in the Acquisition Summary field (bottom left of screen) shows whether the VOLTS/DIV knob is operating in *continuous* or *stepping* mode.

— menu-entry button that accesses the "Coupling" menus (*see next section*).

Coupling



COUPLING

Press [ ] to choose a coupling level that adapts the oscilloscope's input impedance to the impedance of the device under test. And menus that offer selection of:

- **Coupling and grounding of each input channel**
- **ECL or TTL gain, offset and coupling preset for the channel shown**
- **Bandwidth limit for all channels**
- **Probe attenuation of each input channel.**

Coupling

Used to select the input channel's coupling. If an overload is detected, the instrument will automatically set the channel to the grounded state: the menu can then be reset to the desired coupling.

V/div Offset

When NORMAL is highlighted, pressing the corresponding menu button sets the offset, Volts/div, and input coupling to display ECL signals. Press the button a second time and the settings for TTL signals are given. And a third time returns the settings to those used at the last manual setup of the channel.

Global BWL/BWL

To turn the bandwidth limit "**Off**" or to select a limit. The bandwidth can be reduced from 500 MHz or 1 GHz, to either 200 MHz or 25 MHz, or 30 MHz (–3dB), depending on the model (*see Appendix A*). Bandwidth limiting is useful for reducing signal and system noise or preventing high-frequency aliasing, reducing — for example — any high-frequency signals that may cause aliasing in single-shot applications. This menu appears as "Global BWL" if the Global BWL is activated: the limit set will apply to all channels. It appears as "BWL" if the Global BWL is deactivated, when a limit can be set individually for each channel. *See Chapter 12, "Special Modes"*).

Probe Atten

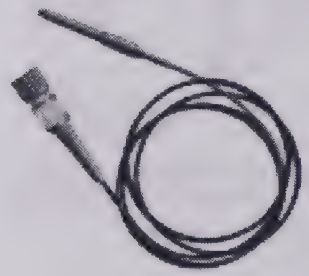
Sets the probe attenuation factor related to the input channel (*see following section for probe details).*

Noteoo:

- ***In the AC position, signals are coupled capacitively, thus blocking the input signal's DC component and limiting the signal frequencies below 10 Hz.***
- ***In the DC position , all signal frequency components are allowed to pass through, and 1 MΩ or 50 Ω may be chosen as the input impedance.***
- ***The maximum dissipation into 50 Ω is 0.5 W. Whenever this is attained:***

1. ***Inputs will automatically be grounded***
2. ***An overload message will be displayed in the Acquisition Summary field***
3. ***The overload condition can be reset by removing the signal from the input and selecting, again, the 50 Ω input impedance from the menu***
4. ***"Grounded" will be highlighted in the "Coupling" menu.***

Probes and Probe Calibration



LeCroy PP005 passive probe

To calibrate the passive probe supplied with the oscilloscope (*see also the separate probe instruction sheet provided*):

1. **Turn on the oscilloscope.**
2. **When using the HF-compensation ground lead — insert the lead's pins in the probe head, and connect the probe to one of the input channels/BNC connectors.**
3. **Attach the lead's alligator clip to the CAL BNC's ground, its outer ring, and touch the tip to its inner conductor.**

   Alternatively, when using the 11 cm ground lead — attach the supplied BNC adapter to the CAL BNC and, having connected the probe to an input channel, insert the probe tip in the adapter.

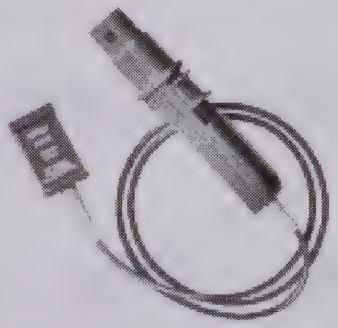
   The CAL signal in both cases will be a 1 kHz square wave, 1 V p–p
4. **Set the channel coupling to DC 1 MΩ using the "Coupling" menu, and press the TRACE ON/OFF button to activate the trace of choice.**
5. **Press**

to set up the oscilloscope.

If overshoot or undershoot of the displayed signal occurs, the probe can be adjusted by inserting the small screwdriver, supplied with the probe package, into the trimmer on the probe's barrel and turning it clockwise or counterclockwise to achieve the optimal square-wave contour. .

ProBus® Probe System

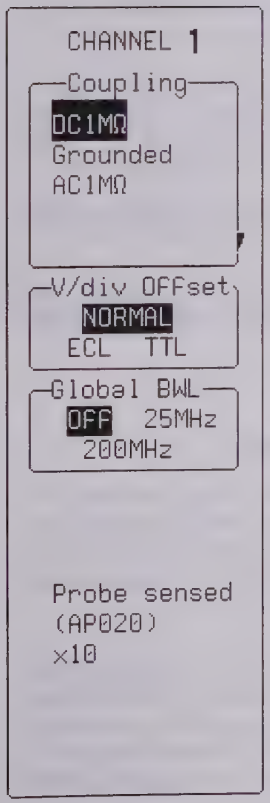
LeCroy's ProBus system provides a complete measurement solution from probe tip to oscilloscope display. This intelligent interconnection between LeCroy oscilloscopes and a wide range of accessories is achieved using a bus that follows Philips' I^2C protocol. ProBus offers important advantages over standard BNC and probe-ring connections.



Illustrated at right: a LeCroy current probe with ProBus connection.

The system ensures correct input coupling by auto-sensing the probe type, eliminating the guesswork and errors that occur when attenuation or amplification factors are set manually.

ProBus also allows control of transparent gain and offset from the front panel — particularly useful for FET and current probes. It uploads Gain and offset correction factors from the ProBus EPROMS on FET probes, automatically compensating to achieve fully-calibrated measurements.



Coupling

Used to select the input channel's coupling. If an overload is detected, the instrument will automatically set the channel to the grounded state: the menu can then be reset to the desired coupling.

V/div Offset

When NORMAL is highlighted, pressing the corresponding menu button sets the offset, Volts/div, and input coupling to display ECL signals. Press the button a second time and the settings for TTL signals are given. And a third time returns the settings to those used at the last manual setup of the channel.

Global BWL/BWL

To turn the bandwidth limit "**Off**" or to select a limit. The bandwidth can be reduced from 500 MHz or 1 GHz, to either 200 MHz or 25 MHz, or 30 MHz (–3dB), depending on the model (*see Appendix A*). Bandwidth limiting is useful for reducing signal and system noise or preventing high-frequency aliasing, reducing — for example — any high-frequency signals that may cause aliasing in single-shot applications. This menu appears as "Global BWL" if the Global BWL is activated: the limit set will apply to all channels. It appears as "BWL" if the Global BWL is deactivated, when a limit can be set individually for each channel. *See Chapter 12, "Special Modes".*

- **When a FET probe is used** — *as shown here* — "Probe sensed…", automatically appears to indicate settings. When other ProBus probes are used, this is redefined.

TIMEBASE + TRIGGER Controls

These controls allow direct adjustment of time/division, trigger level and delay, and access the "TIMEBASE" and "TRIGGER" menu groups. *See Chapter 7 for descriptions of the Timebase Modes affected by these controls and Chapter 8 for trigger details*.

STOP

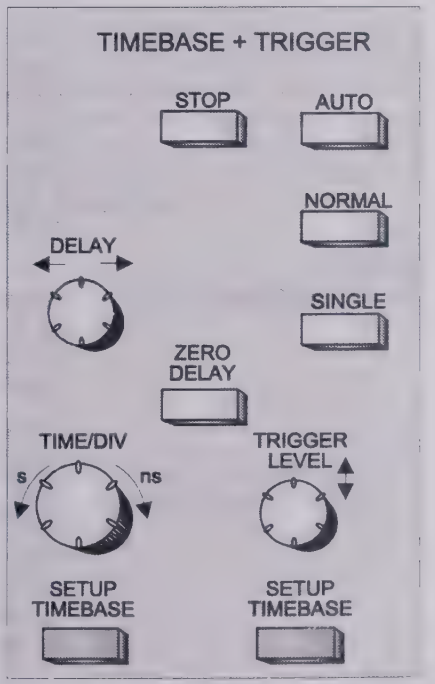
This button halts the acquisition in any of the three *re-arming* modes: AUTO, NORMAL or SINGLE.

Pressing the STOP button prevents the oscilloscope acquiring a new signal.

Press STOP while a single-shot acquisition is under way and the last acquired signal will be kept.

Press STOP after an RIS acquisition has been started and the acquisition will be halted and a partial waveform reconstruction will be performed.

Press STOP when the acquisition is in Roll Mode and the incomplete acquisition data will be shown as if a trigger had occurred.



In Sequence Mode, the action will stop the timebase and show all new segments.

AUTO

Pressing this button places the instrument in Auto Mode: the scope will automatically display the signal if no trigger quickly occurs.

If a trigger does occur within this time, the oscilloscope behaves as in Normal Mode.

Press AUTO in RIS Mode and the acquisition will be terminated and shown each second (some required segments may be missing).

Press AUTO in Roll Mode and the oscilloscope will sample the input signals continuously and indefinitely. The acquisition will have no trigger condition but can be stopped as desired.

Press AUTO in Sequence Mode and the acquisition will be terminated if the time between two consecutive triggers exceeds a timeout that can be selected. The next acquisition is then started from Segment 1. *See under "Special Modes", Chapter 12.*

NORMAL

Pressing this button will continuously update the screen as long as a valid trigger is present. If not, the last signal is preserved and the warning "SLOW TRIGGER" is displayed in the Trigger Status Field.

Press NORMAL in Roll Mode and the acquisition will be terminated when the last needed data after a trigger have been taken. The display will pause to show the entire waveform. It then goes back into Roll Mode while it waits for the next trigger.

Press NORMAL in Sequence Mode and the acquisition will be terminated after the last segment is acquired. The next acquisition will start immediately. Sequence WRAP in Normal is the same as in Single-Shot Mode.

SINGLE

Pressing this button places the scope in Single-Shot Mode, where it waits for a single trigger to occur, then displays the signal and stops acquiring. If no trigger occurs, the button can be pressed again to show the signal being observed without a trigger.

Press SINGLE when in RIS Mode and the instrument will wait for all the trigger events required to build up one signal on screen before it stops. This may require as many as 4000 trigger events.

Single-Shot Roll Mode behavior is the same as standard Single-Shot but without the need to press the button a second time to show the signal. However, the button can be pressed again to terminate the acquisition with the current, available data.

DELAY — used to adjust the pre- or post-trigger delay. Pre-trigger adjustment is available from zero to 100 % of the full time-scale in steps of 1 %. The pre-trigger delay is illustrated by the vertical arrow symbol at the bottom of the grid. Post-trigger adjustment is available from 0 to 10 000 divisions in increments of 0.1 of a division. The post-trigger-delay value is labeled in seconds and is located in the on-screen Trigger Delay field.

ZERO DELAY — sets the trigger delay at zero, the trigger instant at the left-hand edge of the grid.

TIME/DIV — selects the time per division in a 1–2–5 sequence. The time/div setting is displayed in the Acquisition Summary field.

TRIGGER LEVEL — adjusts the trigger threshold. The amplitude of trigger signals and the range of trigger levels is limited:

- ± 5 screen divisions with a channel as the trigger source
- ± 0.5 V or ± 1.2 V (***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) with EXT as the trigger source
- ± 5 V with EXT/10, or ± 6 V with EXT/5 (***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) as the trigger source
- Inactive with Line as the trigger source.

Trigger sensitivity is better than a third-of-a-screen division.

SETUP TIMEBASE — menu-entry button that calls up the "TIMEBASE" menus *described in the next chapter.*

SETUP TRIGGER — menu-entry button that calls up "TRIGGER SETUP" *detailed in Chapter 8.*

Timebase Sampling Modes

Depending on the timebase, any of three sampling modes may be chosen: Single-Shot, RIS (Random Interleaved Sampling), or Roll Mode Furthermore, for timebases suitable for either Single-Shot or Roll Mode, the acquisition memory can be subdivided into user-defined segments to give Sequence Mode.

Single-Shot

Single-Shot is the digital storage oscilloscope's basic acquisition technique.

An acquired waveform is a series of measured voltage values sampled at a uniform rate on the input signal. In Single-Shot mode, this acquisition is a series of measured data values associated with a single trigger event. It is typically stopped at a fixed time after the arrival of the event. The time is determined by the trigger delay and measured using the timebase clock. The horizontal position of a waveform is determined using the trigger event as the definition of time zero. Waveform display is carried out using the same definition.

Because each of the oscilloscope's channels has one or more ADCs, the voltage on each input channel is sampled and measured at the same instant. This allows very reliable time measurements between the different channels.

Trigger delay can be selected anywhere within a range that allows the waveform to be sampled from well before the trigger event up to the moment it occurs, or 100 % pre-trigger. Alternatively, it can be sampled at the equivalent of 10 000 divisions — the current time/div — or post-trigger.

For fast timebase settings, the maximum Single-Shot sampling rate is used (on one and each channel, with higher sampling rates achieved by combining channels, *see page 7–5*). For slower timebases, the sampling rate is decreased and the number of data samples maintained. *See Appendix A for specifications.*

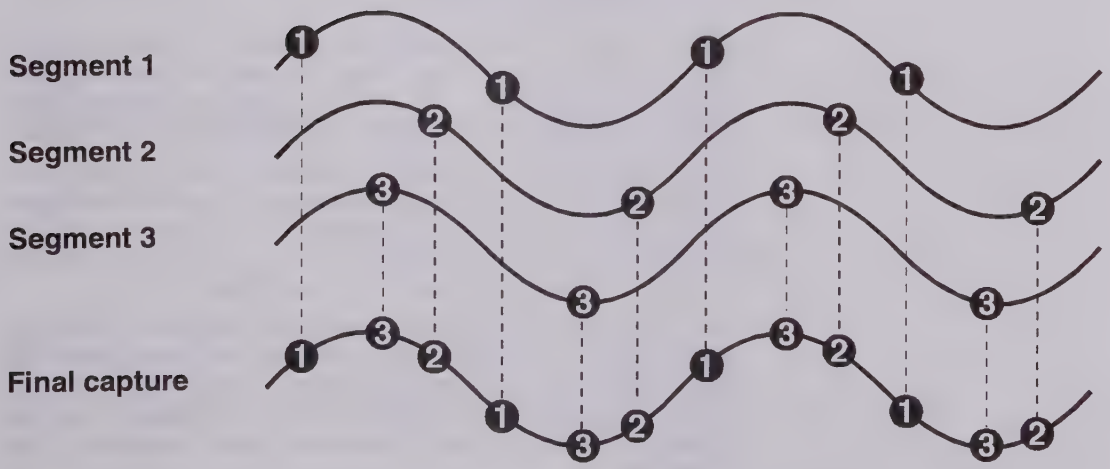
Peak Detect

NOT AVAILABLE ON LC564 OR LC584 SERIES

With slow timebases, sample-rate decreases and very short events such as glitches can be missed if they occur between samples. To avoid this a special circuitry called Peak Detect can be used for capturing the signal envelope with a resolution of 2.5 ns. This does not, however, destroy underlying, simultaneously captured data, on which advanced processing can then be performed. *(See menus page 7–6.)*

RIS: Random Interleaved Sampling

Random Interleaved Sampling (RIS) is an acquisition technique that allows effective sampling rates higher than the maximum single-shot sampling rate. It is used on repetitive waveforms with a stable trigger. The oscilloscope's maximum effective sampling rate of 10 GS/s (25 GS/s for ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be achieved with RIS by acquiring 20 single-shot acquisitions, or bins, at 500 MS/s. These bins are positioned approximately 0.1 ns apart (40 ps on ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***). The process of acquiring the bins and satisfying the time constraint is a random one. The relative time between ADC sampling instants and the event trigger provides the necessary variation, measured by the timebase to 10 ps resolution.



Buildup of an RIS waveform.

On average, 104 trigger events are needed to complete a RIS acquisition. But sometimes many more are needed. These segments are interleaved to provide a waveform covering a time interval that is a multiple of the maximum single-shot sampling rate. However, the real-time interval over which the waveform data are collected is orders of magnitude longer and depends on the trigger rate and the desired level of interleaving. The oscilloscope is capable of acquiring approximately 40 000 RIS segments per second.

Roll (Real-Time Display)

Incoming points in single-shot acquisitions that have a sufficiently low data rate can be displayed in real time, using Roll Mode. On all models at timebase settings of ≥ 0.5 s/div, or ≥ 10 s/div for traces of 500 000 points or more* on all models except the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, the oscilloscope rolls the incoming data continuously across the screen until a trigger event is detected and the acquisition is complete. This works in the same way as a strip-chart recorder: the latest data is used to update the trace display. Waveform Math and Parameter calculations are performed on the completed waveforms, after the real-time display has stopped.

Sequence Mode

In Sequence Mode, the complete waveform consists of a number of fixed-size segments acquired in Single-Shot Mode (*see Appendix A for the limits*). The number of segments to be acquired is selected, and each segment can be individually selected and used in processing.

Sequence Mode offers a number of unique capabilities. Deadtime between trigger events for consecutive segments can be kept to under 50 µs — in contrast to the millisecond or even longer time intervals normally found between consecutive single-shot waveforms. Complicated sequences of events over large time intervals can be captured in fine detail, while the uninteresting periods between the events are ignored. And time measurements can be made between events on selected segments using the full precision of the acquisition timebase.

* Even when real-time display is not possible, the data will continue to be acquired.

Trigger time stamps are given for each of the segments using the "Text & Times Status" menu (*see Chapter 16*). Each individual segment can be zoomed or used as input to math functions (*see Chapter 10*).

The timebase setting in Sequence Mode is used to determine the acquisition duration of each segment: 10 x time/div. This setting, along with the desired number of segments, maximum segment length and total available memory are used to determine the actual number of samples or segments, and time or points.

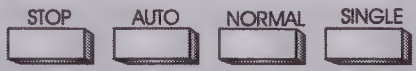
However, the display of the complete waveform with all its segments may not entirely fill the screen.

Sequence Mode can also be used in remote operation to take full advantage of the scope's high data-transmission capability, overlapping the transmission of one waveform with its successor's acquisition (*see the Remote Control Manual for details*).

Wrap

NOT AVAILABLE ON LC564 OR LC584 SERIES

Sequence Mode is normally used for the acquisition of a desired number of segments, after which the waveform acquisition is automatically terminated. However, segments can also be acquired continuously in Sequence Mode, using Wrap, with the oldest segments progressively overwritten in a "first in — first out" sequence, being replaced by new segments. A manual STOP order or timeout condition is then used to terminate the acquisition (*for more on Sequence and Wrap behavior, see page 7–11*).



Note: ***The behavior of*** ***is modified in both Roll and Sequence Modes (refer to the previous chapter and page 7–11).***

In Sequence Mode: ***To ensure low deadtime between segments, button-pushing and knob-turning is to be avoided during the acquisition.***

Combining Channels

For fast timebases, interleaving the oscilloscope's ADCs by combining channels greatly boosts both sample rate and memory length.

Pairing Channels

A pair of channels can be combined on Channels 2 or 3, with Channels 3 and 4 disabled or available only for triggering, depending on the model (*see Note*). On these paired channels the maximum sampling rate is doubled and record length increased by four or even five times depending on the model.

Combining All Channels

All channels can be combined on a single, pre-defined channel (*NOT ON LC564 SERIES*), while the others are either disabled or, depending on the model, remain available for triggering only (*see Note*). The interleaving of ADCs and acquisition memory by combining all four channels achieves up to four times the initial maximum sampling rate, and at least four times the record length.

In the case of models in the *LC334*, *LC534* and *LC574 SERIES*, channels are combined by the attachment of a simple adapter.

When all channels are combined on *LC374 SERIES*, which does not need an adapter, the sampling rate is doubled on Channel 2 and the record length is increased by five times.

MODELS IN THE LC564 AND LC584 SERIES similarly do not require an adapter. In addition, they can combine their ADCs on any input channel using Auto-Combine Mode. In this mode, activated by selecting "Automatic" from the "Channel Use" menu (*see page 7–7*), all available memory is allocated to a single, active displayed channel, provided no other channel is either displayed or referenced in the Parameter or Math Setup. If two traces are displayed or referenced, sampling and memory resources will be divided equally between them. And if more than two traces are displayed or referenced, the resources will be split equally between all four channels.

See the Maximum Sample Rate and Acquisition Memory table in Appendix A for the precise specifications for each model.

***Note:** (SERIES LC564 AND LC584 ONLY) Channels are combined to increase sample rate or memory size, or both, in order to capture and view a signal in all its detail. When channels are combined, those channels not involved in the combination remain, like the EXT BNC input, available for triggering, even though not displayed. Of preference, select "Automatic" to combine channels and have the remaining acquisition channels available for triggering. The channels available for triggering only are indicated by "trig only" in the Acquisition Summary Field.*

Timebase Setup

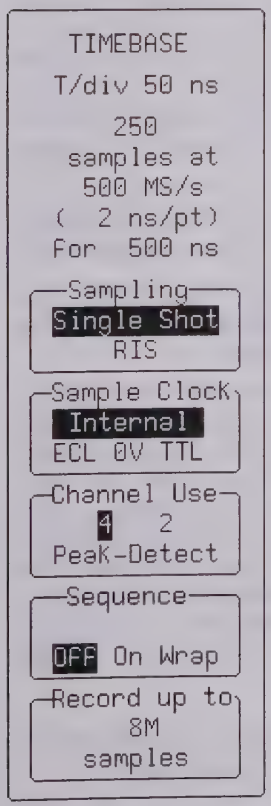
TIMEBASE

SETUP TIMEBASE

Press **to choose Single-Shot, RIS or Sequence Modes, to combine channels and increase sample rate and record length on most models, or use Peak Detect and the external clock where available.**

"TIMEBASE" indicates the number of points acquired, sample rate and total time span.

LC334, LC374, LC534, LC574 SERIES



Sampling

For selecting either of the two principal modes of acquisition:

- "**Single Shot**" — displays data collected during successive single-shot acquisitions from the input channels. This mode allows the capture of non-recurring or very low repetition-rate events simultaneously on all input channels (*refer to page 7–1*).
- "**RIS**" (Random Interleaved Sampling) — achieves a higher effective sampling rate than Single-Shot, provided the input signal is repetitive and the trigger stable (*refer to page 7–2*).

Sample Clock

To select "**Internal**" or External ("**ECL**", "**0V**", "**TTL**") clock modes (*see page 7–8*).

Channel Use

To combine channels or activate Peak Detect Mode (*refer to page 7–2*). Selecting "**4**" combines all input channels, while "**2**" combines a pair of channels on both CH 2 and CH 3 (*see previous page*). "**Peak Detect**" selection activates this feature for capturing high-speed events.

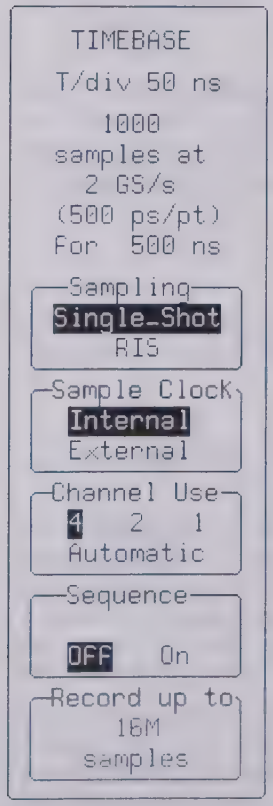
Sequence

For turning Sequence Mode on or off, or for selecting "**Wrap**", when new segments are acquired continuously. With Sequence "**On**", the corresponding menu knob is used to choose the number of segments. *See page 7–10.*

Record up to

For selecting the maximum number of samples to be acquired, using the associated menu knob. *See Appendix A for model maximums.*

LC564 AND LC584 SERIES



Sampling

For selecting either of the two principal modes of acquisition:

- "**Single Shot**" — displays data collected during successive single-shot acquisitions from the input channels. This mode allows the capture of non-recurring or very low repetition-rate events simultaneously on all input channels (*refer to page 7–1*).
- "**RIS**" (Random Interleaved Sampling) — achieves a higher effective sampling rate than Single-Shot, provided the input signal is repetitive and the trigger stable (*refer to page 7–2*).

Sample Clock

To select "**Internal**" or "External" clock modes (*see page 7–9*).

Channel Use

Selecting "**4**" activates all input channels, whereas "**2**" combines a pair of channels on both CH 2 and CH 3. Selecting "**1**" (***NOT AVAILABLE ON SERIES LC564***) combines all channels on CH 2 alone. "**Automatic**" optimizes allocation of sample rate and acquisition memory across the channels: all available resources are allocated to a single displayed channel provided none of the other channels is either displayed or referenced in the Parameter or Math Setup. This Auto-Combine Mode is also the best choice when using a remaining acquisition channel for triggering (*refer to page 7–5*).

Sequence

For turning Sequence Mode "On" or "Off". When activated, the corresponding menu knob is used to choose the number of segments (*see page 7–10*).

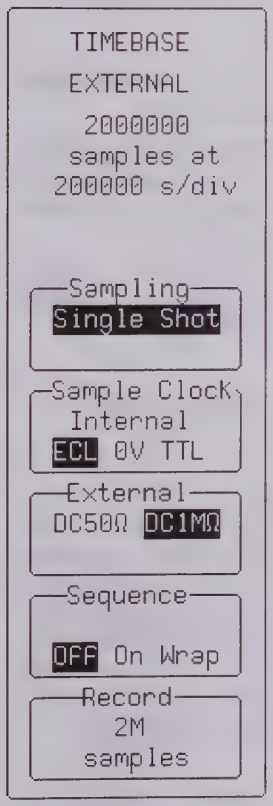
Record up to

For selecting the maximum number of samples to be acquired, using the associated menu knob. *See Appendix A for model maximums.*

LC334, LC374, LC534, LC574 SERIES

TIMEBASE EXTERNAL

These menus appear when an External clock mode is chosen from "Sample Clock".



Sampling

This menu is inactive when the external sample clock is being used. "**Single-Shot**" is selected by default.

Sample Clock

For selecting a description of the signal applied to the EXT BNC connector for the standard sample clock up to 100 MHz. The rising edge of the signal is used to clock the ADCs of the oscilloscope. The effective thresholds for sampling the input are[†]:

ECL	–1.3 V
0V	0.0 V
TTL	+1.5 V

RP (Rear Panel), when shown[‡], specifies that the 50–500 MHz external clock connected to the rear panel is to be used as the sample clock.

External

To select the input coupling for the external clock signal.

Sequence

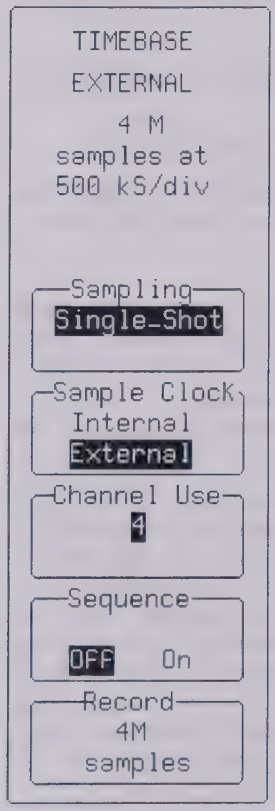
For turning Sequence Mode on or off, or for selecting where available, "**Wrap**", to acquire new segments continuously. When Sequence "**On**" or "**Wrap**" is selected, the corresponding menu knob is used to choose the number of segments (*see page 7–10*). Neither trigger time stamps nor AUTO sequence time-out feature are available when external clock is used, nor is inter-segment deadtime guaranteed.

Record

To select, using the corresponding button or associated knob, the number of samples for the acquisition. *See Appendix A for model maximums.*

[†] External clock modes are available only if the EXT trigger is not the trigger source.

[‡] With CKTRIG Option only — *see that option's dedicated Operator's Manual.*



Sampling

This menu is inactive when the external sample clock is being used. "**Single-Shot**" is selected by default.

Sample Clock

For selecting "**External**" clock mode. This specifies that the DC to 500 MHz external clock, connected to the instrument by the rear panel, be used as the sample clock. The rising edge of the signal is used to clock the ADCs. The effective threshold for sampling the input is 0.0 V.

Channel Use

"**4**" is selected by default with "**External**".

Sequence

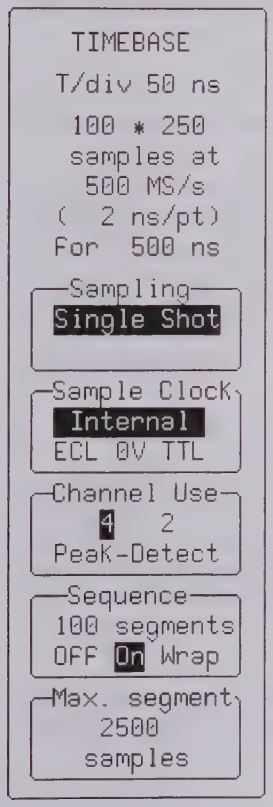
For turning Sequence Mode on or off when new segments are acquired continuously. With Sequence "**On**", the corresponding menu knob is used to choose the number of segments (*see page 7–10*). Neither trigger time stamps nor AUTO sequence time-out feature are available when external clock is used, nor is inter-segment deadtime guaranteed.

Record

To select, using the corresponding button or associated knob, the number of samples for the acquisition. *See Appendix A for maximums.*

***Note:** The external clock time/div is expressed in samples per division, as is the trigger delay, which can be adjusted normally. No attempt is made to measure the time difference between the trigger and the external clock, so successive acquisitions of the same signal can appear to jitter on the screen.*
The oscilloscope requires a number of pulses (typically 50) to recognize the external clock signal. The acquisition is halted only when the trigger conditions have been satisfied and the appropriate number of data points have been accumulated.
Any adjustment to the time/division knob automatically returns the oscilloscope to normal (internal) clock operation.

TIMEBASE — Sequence — for using Sequence Mode.



Sampling

This menu is inactive when Sequence Mode is being used. "**Single-Shot**" is selected by default.

Sample Clock *(OPTIONAL ON LC564 AND LC584 SERIES)*

To select as clock mode "**Internal**" or "External", or "**Internal**" or "**ECL**", "**0V**" or "**TTL**", depending on model (*see page 7–8 or 7–9*).

Channel Use

LC334, LC374, LC534 AND LC574 SERIES: To combine channels or activate Peak Detect Mode (*refer to page 7–2*), on models where these features are available. Selecting "**4**" combines all input channels, while "**2**" combines a pair of channels on both CH 2 and CH 3. "**Peak Detect**" selection activates this feature for capturing high-speed events.

LC564 AND LC584 SERIES ONLY (not shown, see menus page 7–7): Selecting "**4**" activates all input channels, whereas "**2**" combines a pair of channels on both CH 2 and CH 3. Selecting "**1** (*NOT AVAILABLE ON SERIES LC564*) combines all channels on CH 2 alone. "**Automatic**" optimizes allocation of sample rate and acquisition memory across the channels: all available resources are allocated to a single displayed channel provided none of the other channels is either displayed or referenced in the Parameter or Math Setup. This Auto-Combine Mode is also the best choice when using a remaining acquisition channel for triggering (*refer to page 7–5*).

Sequence

For turning Sequence Mode on or off, or for selecting "**Wrap**", if available, to acquire new segments continuously. When either "**On**" or "**Wrap**" are chosen, the associated menu knob is used to choose the number of segments.

Max. segment

To select, using the corresponding button or associated knob, the maximum record length, in samples, for each segment. *See Appendix A for model maximums.*

More on Sequence...

In Sequence Mode, pressing each of the TIMEBASE + TRIGGER buttons mentioned here has particular effects on the acquisition.

When

is pressed, the oscilloscope fills the chosen number of segments and then stops the acquisition.

However, it will not stop until

is pressed if there are not enough trigger events to fill the segments.

Pressing

fills the segments. When all are filled, the data will be processed and displayed. Then, if more trigger events occur, the acquisition will restart from Segment 1.

In addition, when

is pressed, and if the time between two consecutive triggers exceeds a selected time-out, the acquisition will be restarted from Segment 1. (*See "Special Modes", Chapter 12.*)

...and Wrap

On models with "**Wrap**" the segments can be filled continuously, with the oldest segment overwritten and replaced by the newest one, and so on, until the STOP button is pressed. The last *n* segments will then be displayed. Another way to terminate the Wrap sequence is with the AUTO button: the acquisition will be stopped if the time between two consecutive triggers exceeds a selected time-out.

Choosing the Right Trigger

Your oscilloscope offers many distinctive and useful techniques for triggering on and capturing data. These range from simple Edge to the advanced SMART Trigger on multiple inputs.

Three triggering modes are available: AUTO, NORMAL and SINGLE. Additionally, STOP enables the acquisition process to be aborted. All are directly accessible by pressing the respective front-panel buttons.

Modifying Trigger Settings

Trigger adjustments are made directly using the front-panel controls and with the trigger menus.

This chapter describes the triggering operations and offers hints on how to perform them.

Along with the standard menu descriptions, the schematics show the trigger-menu structure, and the diagrams explain how the main triggers work.

See, too, the trigger chapters in the "Hands-On Guide".

Rotating — for example — causes the scope to adjust the trigger level of the single trigger source or, for Pattern Trigger, the highlighted trace.

Pressing accesses advanced trigger operations, such as changing the glitch width or the hold-off timeout, which are performed using the TRIGGER SETUP menu group, represented here schematically (*Fig. 8–1*). Once the trigger configuration has been modified, the changes are stored internally in a non-volatile memory.

See Chapter 6 for more about these and the other trigger controls.

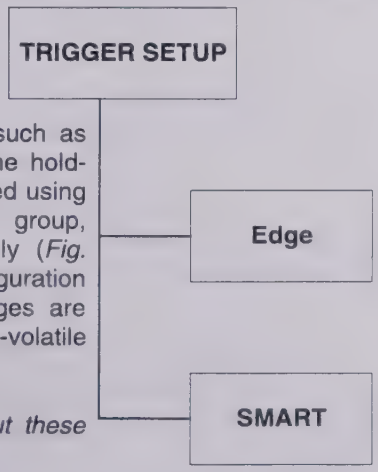


Figure 8–1. Main Trigger Menus.

Edge or SMART?

A variety of triggers for different applications can be chosen from the two main trigger groups, Edge and SMART Trigger.

Edge Triggers

In the Edge group of menus trigger conditions are defined by the vertical trigger level, coupling, and slope. Edge triggers use relatively simple selection criteria to characterize a signal. They are most useful for triggering on simple signals (*see next page and page 8–34*).

SMART Trigger

The SMART Trigger types allow additional qualifications to be set before a trigger is generated. These qualifications can be used to capture rare phenomena such as glitches or spikes, specific logic states, or missing bits. A qualification might include trigger generation only on a pulse wider or narrower than a user-specified limit. Or it might require — to take but another example — three trigger sources exceeding specific levels for a minimum time.

Generally speaking, SMART Trigger offers a variety of trigger qualifications based on three basic abilities:

1. To count a specified number of events
2. To measure time intervals
3. To recognize a pattern input.

SMART explanations start page 8–9 and menus 8–35.

Trigger symbols or icons, examples of which are illustrated throughout this chapter, allow immediate on-screen recognition of the current trigger conditions. There is a symbol for each Edge and SMART Trigger. The more heavily-marked transitions on the symbolic waveform indicate the slope on which the trigger will be generated. And the symbols are annotated by information on the trigger settings.

Edge Trigger

Selecting "Edge" and its menus (*Fig. 8–2*) causes the scope to trigger whenever the selected signal source meets the trigger conditions. The trigger source is defined by the trigger level, coupling, slope or hold-off. Certain of these basic conditions applicable for SMART Trigger are also selected in "Edge" (*see menu descriptions starting page 8–34*).

The symbol above is that of an edge trigger with positive slope — the highlighted edge — defined as the trigger condition.

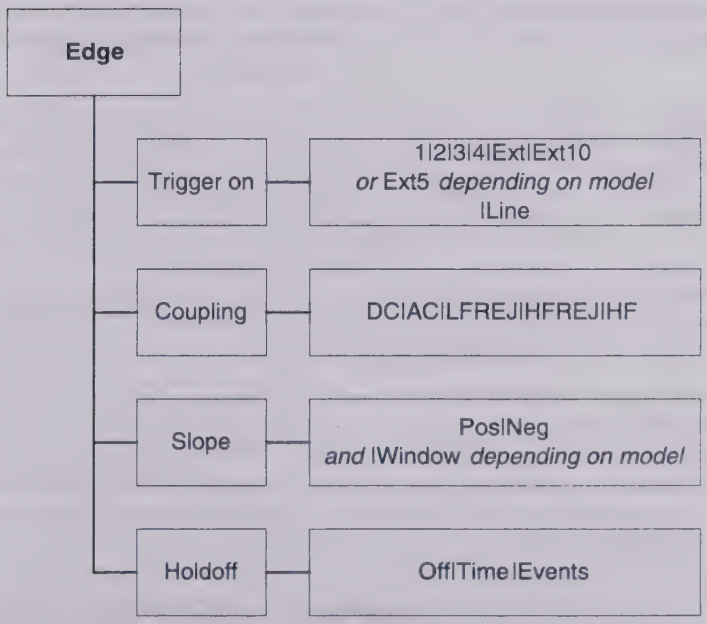


Figure 8–2. Edge Trigger Menus (see page 8–34).

Trigger Source

The trigger source may be:

- The acquisition channel signal (CH 1, CH 2, CH 3 or CH 4) conditioned for the overall voltage gain, coupling, and bandwidth.
- The line voltage that powers the oscilloscope (LINE). This can be used to provide a stable display of signals synchronous with the power line. Coupling and level are not relevant for this selection.
- The signal applied to the EXT BNC connector (EXT). This can be used to trigger the oscilloscope within a range of ± 0.5 V on EXT and ± 5 V with EXT/10 as the trigger source. Or, on the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, ± 1.2 V for EXT and ± 6 V with EXT/5 as trigger source.

AVAILABLE ONLY ON LC564 AND LC584 SERIES

In addition to the EXT BNC connector, acquisition channels not used when channels are combined for greater sample rates or memory can be used for triggering (*see Chapter 7, "Combining Channels"*).

Level

Level defines the source voltage at which the trigger circuit will generate an event (a change in the input signal that satisfies the trigger conditions). The selected trigger level is associated with the chosen trigger source. Note that the trigger level is specified in volts and normally remains unchanged when the vertical gain or offset is modified.

The Amplitude and Range of the trigger level are limited as follows:

- ± 5 screen divisions with a channel as the trigger source
- ± 0.5 V, or ± 1.2 V for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, with EXT as the trigger source
- ± 5 V with EXT/10, or ± 6 V with EXT/5 on the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, as the trigger source
- None with LINE as the trigger source (zero crossing is used).

Note: Once specified, Trigger Level and Coupling are the only parameters that pass unchanged from trigger mode to trigger mode for each trigger source.

Coupling

This is the particular type of signal coupling at the input of the trigger circuit. As with the trigger level, the coupling can be independently selected for each source. Thus changing the trigger source can change the coupling. The types of coupling able to be selected are:

- **DC**: All the signal's frequency components are coupled to the trigger circuit for high-frequency bursts or where the use of AC coupling would shift the effective trigger level.
- **AC**: The signal is capacitively coupled, DC levels are rejected and frequencies below 50 Hz attenuated (< 10 Hz for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***).
- **LF REJ**: The signal is coupled via a capacitive high-pass filter network, DC is rejected and signal frequencies below 50 kHz are attenuated (< 100 MHz for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***). For stable triggering on medium- to high-frequency signals.
- **HF REJ**: Signals are DC-coupled to the trigger circuit and a low-pass filter network attenuates frequencies above 50 kHz. For triggering on low frequencies.
- **HF**: To be used only when necessary for triggering on high-frequency repetitive signals > 300 MHz, with a maximum trigger frequency of > 500 MHz (> 1 GHz for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***). HF is automatically overridden and set to AC when incompatible with other trigger characteristics (and SMART Trigger). Only one slope available.

Slope

Slope determines the direction of the trigger voltage transition used for generating a particular trigger event. Like coupling, the selected slope is associated with the chosen trigger source.

Hold-off

Without hold-off, the time between each successive trigger event would be limited only by the input signal, the coupling, and the oscilloscope's bandwidth. However, sometimes a stable display of complex repetitive waveforms can be achieved by placing a condition on this time. This is a hold-off, which can be expressed either as a period of time or an event count. Hold-off disables the trigger circuit for a given period of time or events (an event is the number of occasions on which the trigger condition is met) after the last trigger occurred. The trigger will again occur when the hold-off has elapsed and the other specified conditions are met. Hold-off is used to obtain a stable trigger for repetitive, composite waveforms. For example, if the number or duration of sub-signals is known they can be disabled by choosing an appropriate hold-off value.

Hold-off by Time

This is the selection of a minimum time between triggers (*Fig. 8–3*). A trigger is generated when the trigger condition is met after the selected hold-off delay from the last trigger. The timing for the delay is initialized and started on each trigger.

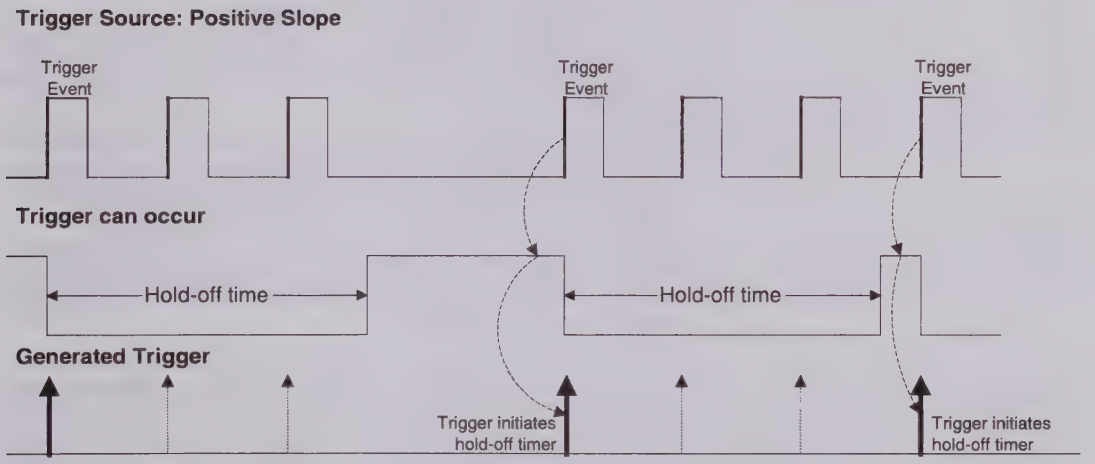


Figure 8–3. Edge Trigger with Hold-off by Time. The bold edges on the trigger source indicate a positive slope. The broken upward-pointing arrows indicate potential triggers, which would occur were other conditions met, while the bold ones indicate where triggers actually occur when the hold-off time has been exceeded.

The symbol here indicates, as an example, a positive edge, trigger level of 0.008 V and a hold-off time of 50 ns.

Hold-off by Events

Hold-off by events is initialized and started on each trigger (*Fig. 8–4*). A trigger is generated when the trigger condition is met after the selected number of events from the last trigger. An event is defined as the number of times the trigger condition is met after the last trigger. For example, if the number selected is two, as it is in Figure 8–4, the trigger will occur on the third event. From 1 to 99 999 999 events can be selected.

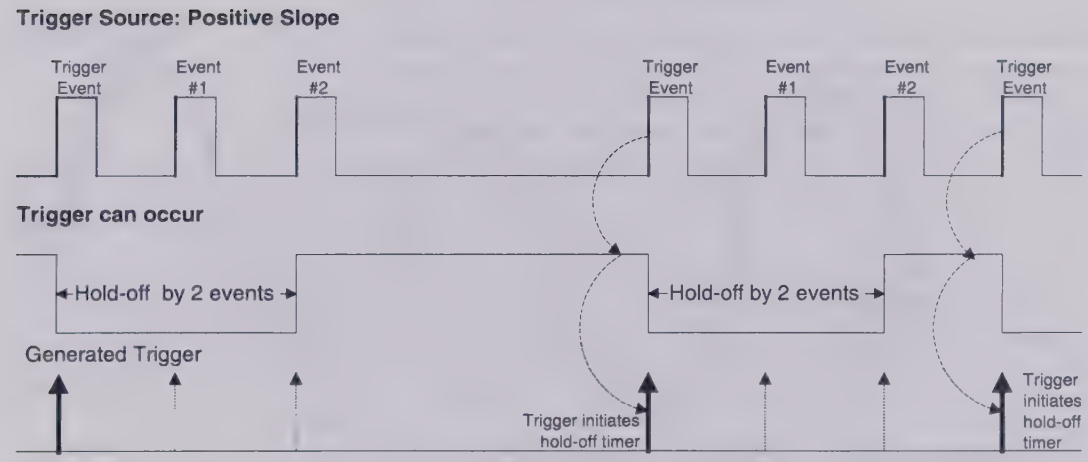


Figure 8–4. Edge Trigger with Hold-off by Events (in this example, by two events). The bold edges on the trigger source indicate a positive slope. The broken, upward-pointing arrows indicate potential triggers, while the bold ones show where triggers actually occur after the hold-off expires.

The symbol indicates a hold-off of 37 events.

Window Trigger
AVAILABLE ONLY ON LC564 AND LC584 SERIES

The Window Trigger (*Fig. 8–5*) allows the definition of a window region whose boundaries extend above and below the selected trigger level. A trigger event occurs when the signal leaves this window region in either direction and passes into the upper or lower region. The next trigger will occur if and when the signal again passes into the window region. For a trigger to occur, the time that the signal spends within the window must be at least 0.5 ns.

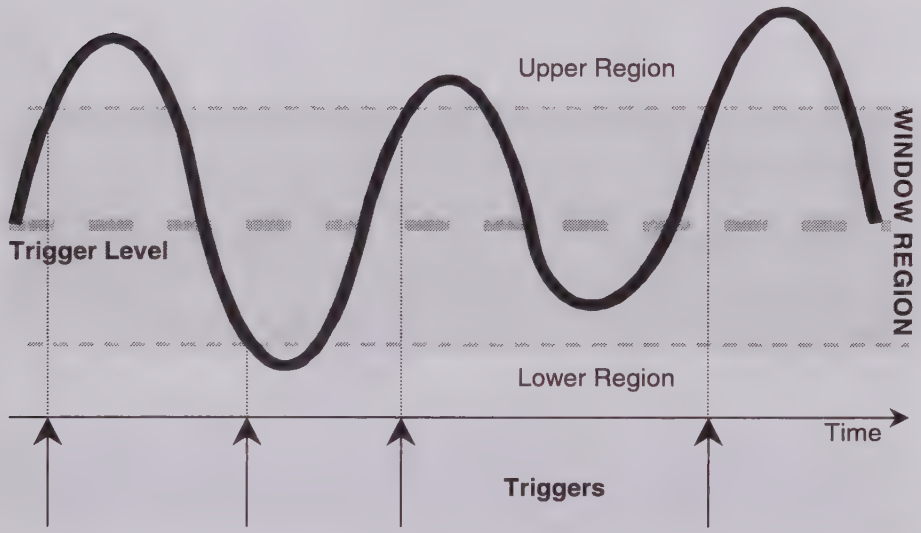


Figure 8–5. Edge Window Trigger: trigger when the signal leaves the window region.

The symbol indicates the trigger level and the range of the window region.

SMART Trigger

SMART Trigger types allow the setting of additional qualifications before a trigger is generated. Depending on the oscilloscope model, they include triggers adapted for glitches, intervals, abnormal signals, TV signals, state- or edge-qualified events, dropouts, patterns, "runts" and slew rate.

Glitch Trigger

Generally speaking a glitch is a pulse much faster than the observed waveform. Glitch Trigger (*Fig. 8–6*) is used to capture narrow pulses less than or equal to, or greater than or equal to, a given time limit.

The symbol above indicates, as an example, a pulse width of ≤ 10 ns.

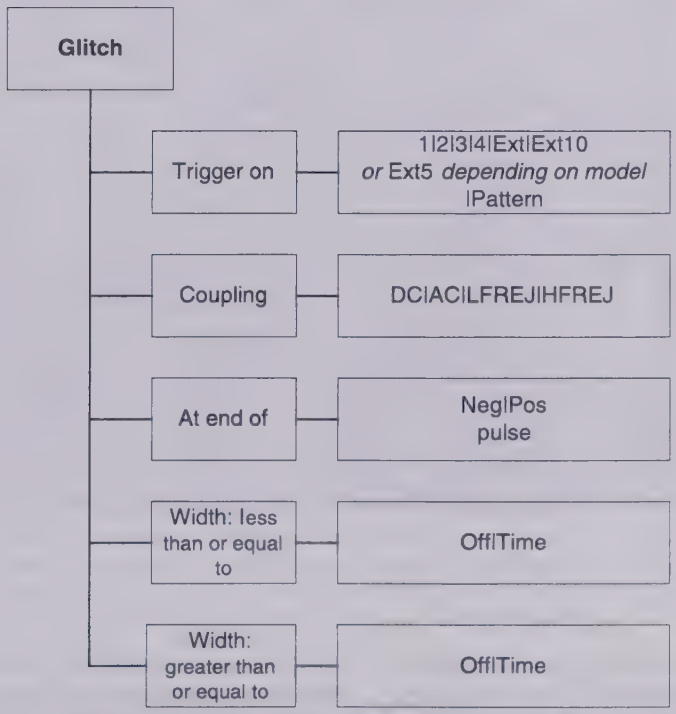


Figure 8–6. Glitch Trigger Menus (see page 8–36).

Glitch Applications

Digital electronics circuits normally use an internal clock, and for testing purposes a glitch can be defined as any pulse of width smaller than the clock- or half-period. Glitch Trigger has a broad range of applications in digital and analog electronic development, ATE, EMI, telecommunications, and magnetic media studies.

Pulse Smaller than Selected Pulse Width

This Glitch Trigger selects a maximum pulse width (*Fig. 8–7*). It is generated on the selected edge when the pulse width is less than or equal to the selected width. The timing for the width is initialized and restarted on the opposite slope to that selected. On the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***, glitches as short as 600 ps can be triggered on, and widths of 600 ps–20 s selected. On the other models, widths of between 2.5 ns and 20 s can be selected, but typically triggering will occur on glitches 1 ns wide.

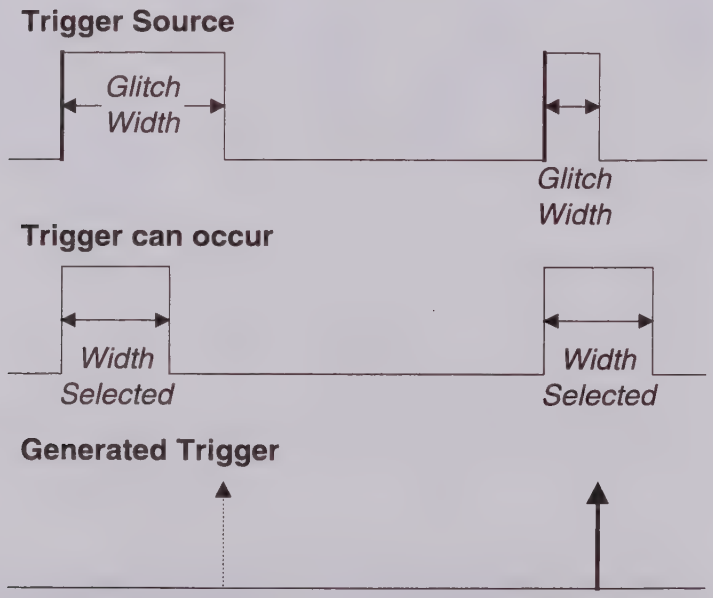


Figure 8–7. Glitch Trigger: here on a pulse width less than or equal to the width selected. The broken upward arrow indicates a potential trigger, while the bold one shows where the actual trigger occurs.

Exclusion Trigger

Selecting "Glitch" and setting width conditions can also enable the exclusion of events that either fall within, or outside of, a selected width range. This is an exclusion trigger (*Fig. 8–8*). When it is decided to exclude from triggering all those events within a particular range, only pulses outside — less-than-or-equal-to or greater-than-or-equal-to — this range will generate a trigger event. Alternatively, it may be decided to trigger only on those pulses in the range itself and exclude all those outside it. The timing for the width is initialized and restarted on the slope opposite to the selected edge. Widths of the same values as for Glitch Trigger can be selected (*see previous page*).

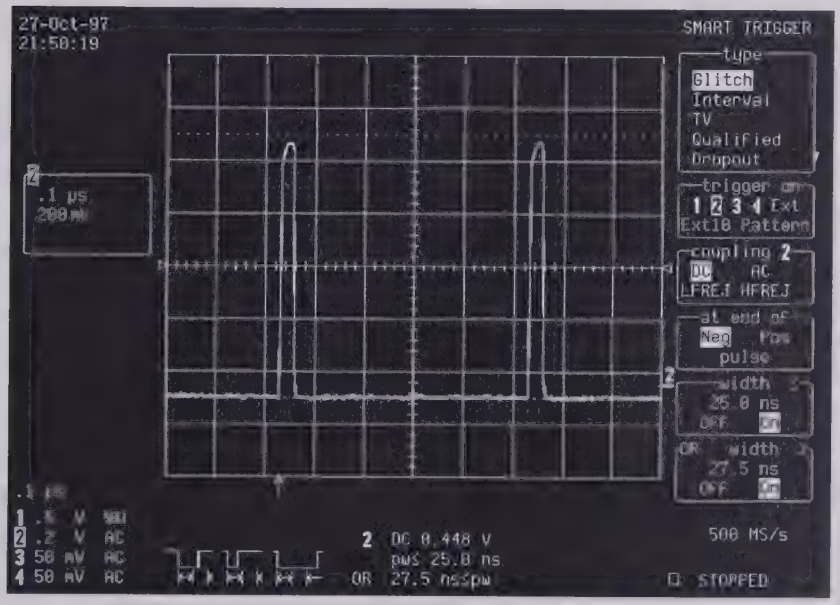


Figure 8–8. Exclusion Trigger. In this example, only pulses outside the boundaries of the width range, those of ≤ 25.0 ns or ≥ 27.5 ns in length, will be captured. Note the "OR" in the "width ≥" menu, which changes to "&" when triggering only within the range.

Exclusion Applications

Exclusion Triggers allow a signal's normal width or period to be specified, with the scope instructed to ignore the normally shaped signals and trigger only on abnormal ones. Circuit failures, for instance, can be looked for all the time.

Interval Trigger

Whereas Glitch Trigger performs over the width of a pulse, Interval Trigger (*Fig. 8–9*) performs over the width of an interval. An interval corresponds to a the signal duration (the period) separating two consecutive edges of the same polarity: positive to positive edge; negative to negative edge. Interval Trigger is used to capture intervals that are inferior to or exceeding a given time limit. In addition, a width range can be defined to capture any interval that is comprised within or outside the specified range — an Exclusion Trigger by Interval.

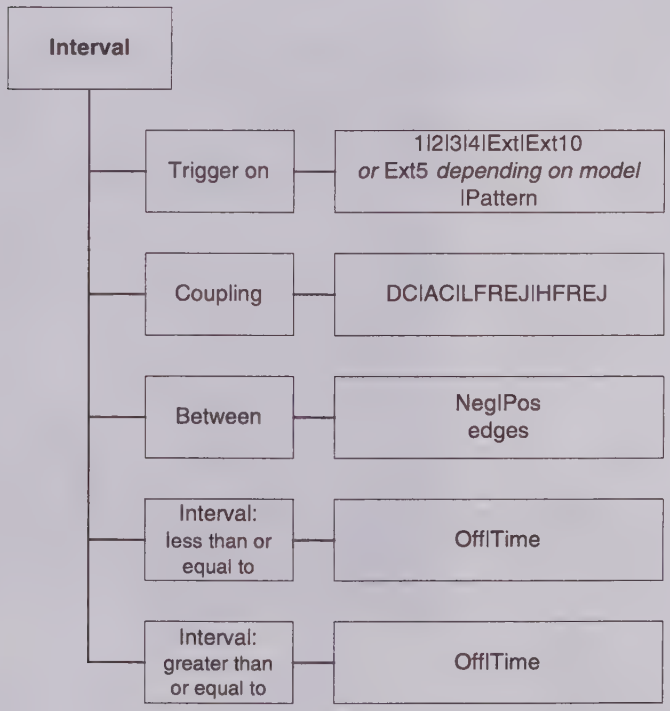


Figure 8–9. Interval Trigger Menus (see page 8–38).

Interval Applications

Interval Trigger is helpful for determining missing cycles or transitions, and for ignoring unwanted signal reflections.

Interval Smaller

For this Interval Trigger, generated on a time interval *smaller* than the one selected, a *maximum* interval between two like edges of the same slope — positive, for example — is chosen (*Fig. 8–10*). The trigger is generated on the second (positive) edge if it occurs within the selected interval. The timing for the interval is initialized and restarted whenever the selected edge occurs. Intervals of between 10 ns and 20 s (2 ns and 20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be selected.

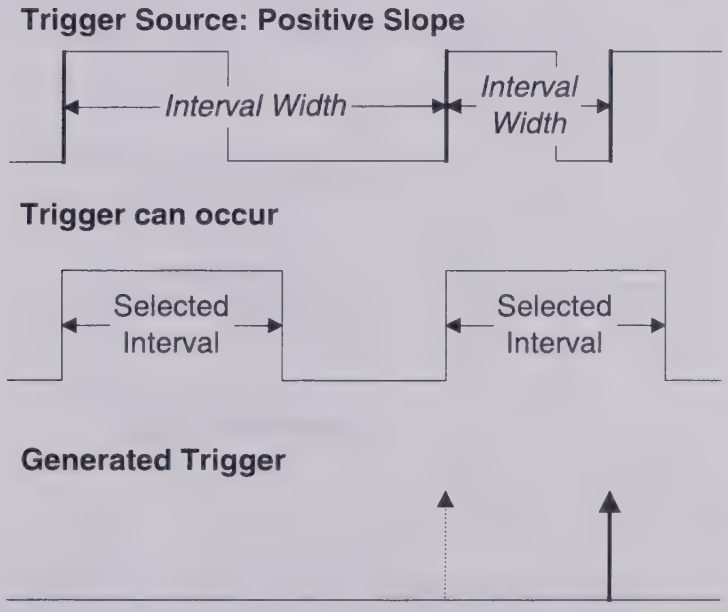
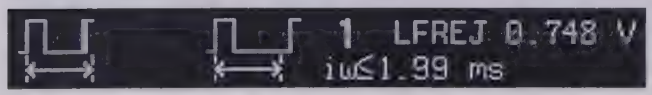


Figure 8–10. Interval Trigger that triggers when the interval width is smaller than the selected interval. The broken, upward-pointing arrow indicates a potential trigger, while the bold one shows where the actual trigger occurs — on the positive edge within the selected interval.



The symbol indicates a positive slope and interval of ≤ 1.99 ms selected.

Interval Larger

For this Interval Trigger, generated on an interval *larger* than the one selected, a *minimum* interval between two edges of the same slope is selected (*Fig. 8–11*). The trigger is generated on the second edge if it occurs after the selected interval. The timing for the interval is initialized and restarted whenever the selected edge occurs. Intervals of between 10 ns and 20 s (2 ns and 20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be selected.

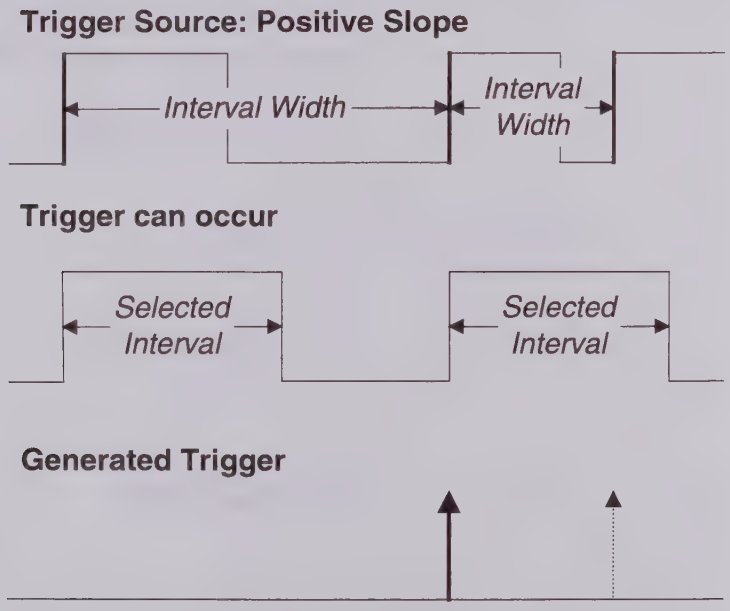
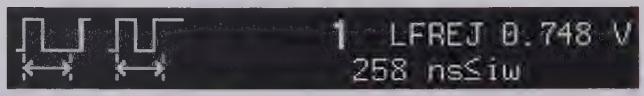


Figure 8–11. Interval Trigger that triggers when the interval width is larger than the selected interval. The broken upward-pointing arrow indicates a potential trigger, while the bold one shows where the actual trigger occurs — on the positive edge after the selected interval.



The symbol indicates a positive slope and interval of ≤ 258 ns selected.

Interval Between Range

This Interval Trigger is generated whenever an interval between two edges of the same slope falls within a selected range (*Fig. 8–12*). The timing for the interval is initialized and restarted whenever the selected edge occurs. Intervals of between 10 ns and 20 s (2 ns and 20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be selected.

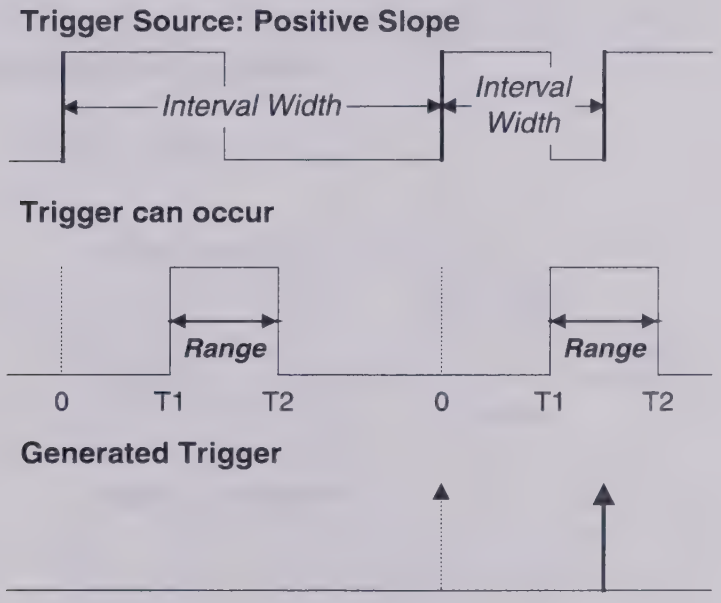
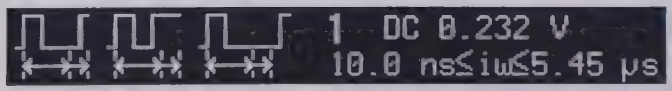


Figure 8–12. Interval Trigger that triggers when the interval falls within the selected range: T1 = the range's lower time limit; T2 its upper limit. The broken upward-pointing arrow indicates a potential trigger, while the bold one indicates where the actual trigger occurs — on the positive edge within the selected range.



The symbol indicates a positive slope, range limits of ≥ 10.0 ns and ≤ 5.4 ms, selected.

Interval Outside Range

This Interval Trigger is generated whenever an interval between two edges of the same slope falls outside a selected range (*Fig. 8–13*). The trigger is generated on the second edge if it occurs after the selected interval range. The timing for the interval is initialized and restarted whenever the selected edge occurs. Intervals of between 10 ns and 20 s (2 ns and 20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be selected.

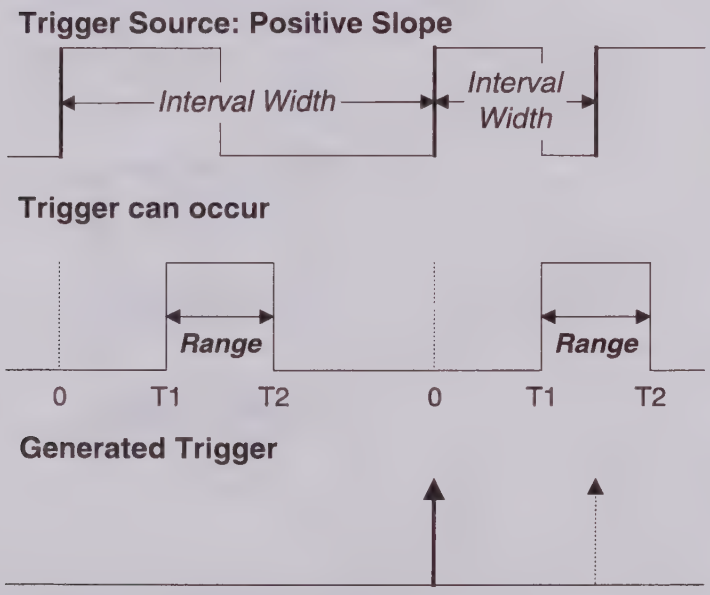


Figure 8–13. Interval Trigger that triggers when the interval falls outside the selected range: T1 = the range's lower time limit; T2 its upper limit. The broken upward-pointing arrow indicates a potential trigger, while the bold one shows where the actual trigger occurs, on the positive edge outside the selected range.

The symbol indicates a positive slope, and range limits of ≤10.0 ns and ≥347.5 ns selected. "OR" means that intervals above or below the range have been targeted.

Pattern Trigger

Pattern Trigger (*Fig. 8–14*) enables triggering on a logical combination of the five inputs CH 1, CH 2, CH 3, CH 4 and EXT. This combination, called a pattern, is defined as the logical AND of trigger states. A trigger state is either high or low: high when a trigger source is greater than the trigger level, or threshold, and low when less than it (*Fig. 8–15*). For example, a pattern could be defined as present when the trigger state for CH 1 is high, CH 2 is low, and EXT is irrelevant (X or don't care). If any of these conditions are not met, the pattern state is considered absent. Hold-off limits from 10 ns to 20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***), or from 1 to 99 999 999 events, can be selected.

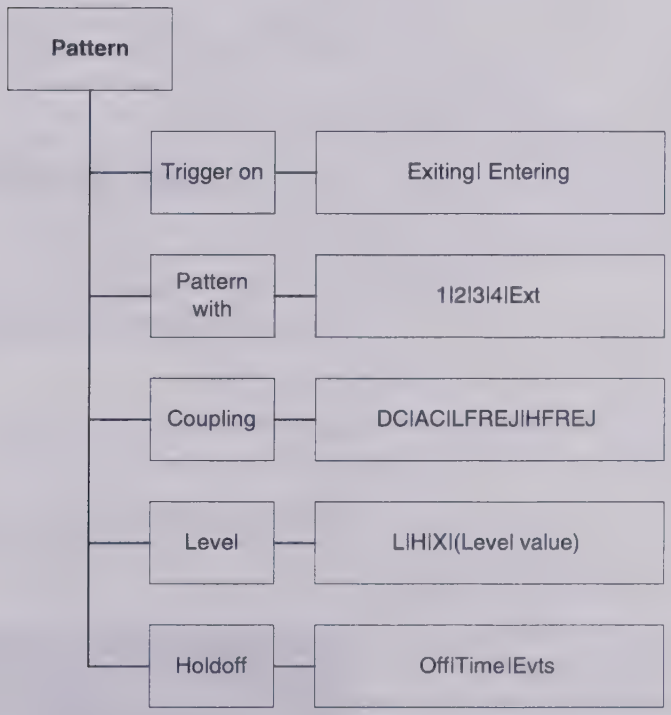


Figure 8–14. Pattern Trigger Menus (see page 8–43).

Pattern Applications

Pattern Trigger can be used in digital design for the testing of complex logic inputs or data transmission buses.

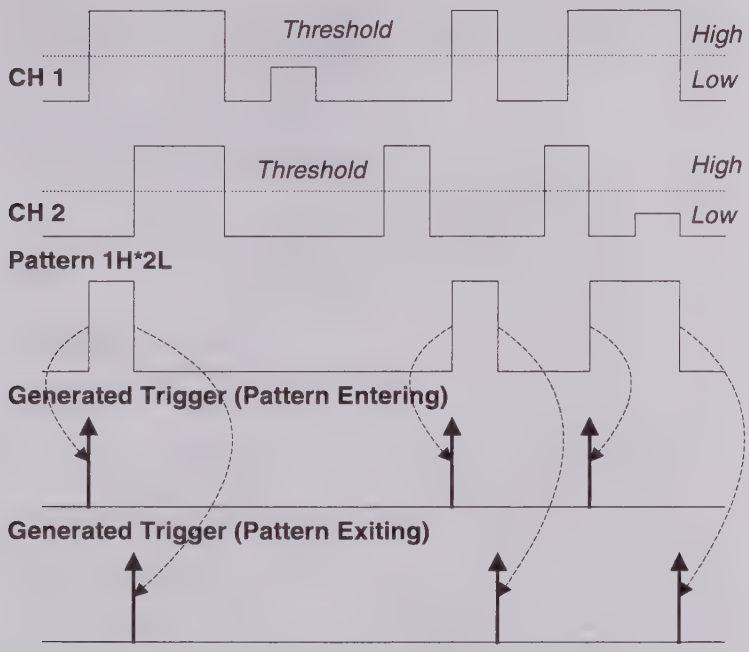


Figure 8–15. Pattern Trigger: triggers when all pattern conditions are met. Bold, upward-pointing arrows show where triggers occur.

Information summarizing the pattern set up is displayed.

More About Pattern Trigger

Once the pattern is defined, one of two transitions can be used to generate the trigger. When the pattern begins, called *entering* the pattern, a trigger can be generated. Alternatively, a trigger can be generated when the pattern ends, *exiting* the pattern.

With pattern triggering, as in single source, either of these qualifications can be selected: Hold-off for 10 ns up to 20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***), or Hold-off for 1 to 99 999 999 events.

Set to Pattern Trigger, the oscilloscope always checks the logic AND of the defined input logic states. However, with the help of de Morgan's laws, the pattern becomes far more generalized.

Consider the important example of the Bi-level or Window Pattern Trigger. Bi-level implies the expectation of a single-shot signal on which the amplitude will go in either direction outside a known range. To set up a Bi-level Pattern trigger, connect the signal to two inputs: Channels 1 and 2 or any other pair that can be triggered on. For example, the threshold of CH 1 could be set to +100 mV and that of CH 2 at –200 mV. The Bi-level Trigger will occur if the oscilloscope triggers on CH 1 for any pulse greater than +100 mV, or on CH 2 for any pulse less than –200 mV. For improved precision, the gains of the two channels should be at the same setting.

In Boolean notation we can write:

$$\text{Trigger} = \text{CH 1} + \overline{\text{CH 2}},$$

i.e. trigger when entering the pattern CH 1 = high OR CH 2 = low.

By de Morgan's laws this is equivalent to:

$$\text{Trigger} = \overline{\overline{\text{CH 1}} \cdot \text{CH 2}},$$

i.e. trigger when exiting the pattern CH 1 = low AND CH 2 = high. This configuration can be easily programmed.

The possibility of setting the threshold individually for each channel extends this method so that it becomes a more general Window Trigger: in order to trigger the input pulse amplitude must lie within or outside a given arbitrary window.

Pattern Trigger has been designed to allow a choice of the trigger point. By choosing *1L*2H entering*, the trigger will occur at the moment the pattern 1L*2H becomes true.

Qualified Triggers

In the case of Qualified Triggers (*Fig. 8–16*), a signal's transition above or below a given level — its *validation* — serves as an enabling, or qualifying, condition for a second signal that is the source of the trigger.

Two Qualified Triggers are available: State-Qualified, where the amplitude of the first signal must remain in the desired state until the trigger occurs, and Edge-Qualified, for which the validation is sufficient and no additional requirement is placed on the first signal (*for the separate, Qualified First Trigger, see page 8–24*).

A Qualified Trigger can occur immediately after the validation or within a set time after it. Or it can occur following a predetermined time delay or number of potential trigger events. The time delay or trigger count is restarted with every validation.

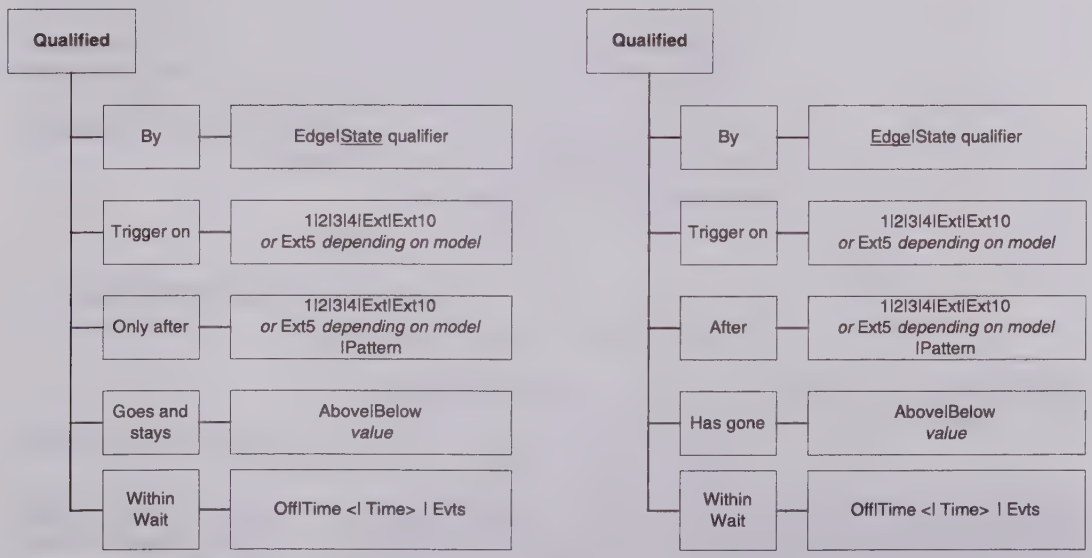


Figure 8–16. State- and Edge-Qualified Trigger Menus (see pages 8–40 and 8–41).

Qualified Triggers offer the choice of generating a trigger either when a selected pattern is present or absent. As with Pattern Trigger, the pattern is defined as a logical AND combination of trigger states that are either high or low: high when a trigger source is greater than the selected trigger level, and low when it is less than. For example, a pattern might be defined as present when the trigger states for Channels 1 and 2 are high and EXT is low. If any of these conditions is not met, the pattern state is considered absent.

Qualified Triggers allow an additional qualification once the selected pattern state occurs. For example: "wait for 10 ns up to 20 s, trigger on CH 1 to the 99 999 999th event". The pattern is used to qualify the trigger without actually generating it. Triggering will occur when another signal, the trigger source, meets its trigger condition while the pattern is present. The trigger source itself is not allowed in the pattern.

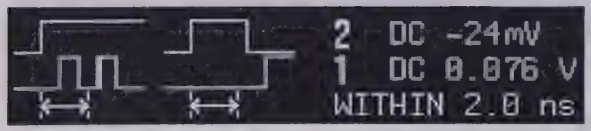
Qualified Applications

Typical applications can be found wherever time violations occur, such as in micro-processor debugging or telecommunications.

State-Qualified with Wait

State-Qualified Trigger with Wait (*Fig. 8–17*) is determined by the parameters of Time or the number of Events:

- **Time** determines a delay from the start of the desired pattern. After the delay (timeout) and while the pattern is present, a trigger can occur. The timing for the delay is restarted when the selected pattern begins .
- **Events** determines a minimum number of events of the trigger source. An event is generated when a trigger source meets its trigger conditions. On the selected event of the trigger source and while the pattern is present, a trigger can occur. The count is initialized and started whenever the selected pattern begins, and continues while the pattern remains. When the selected count is reached, the trigger occurs.



This symbol is that for a State-Qualified-with-time-Wait trigger: positive slope, 2 ns delay, "goes and stays* Above*" -24 mV.

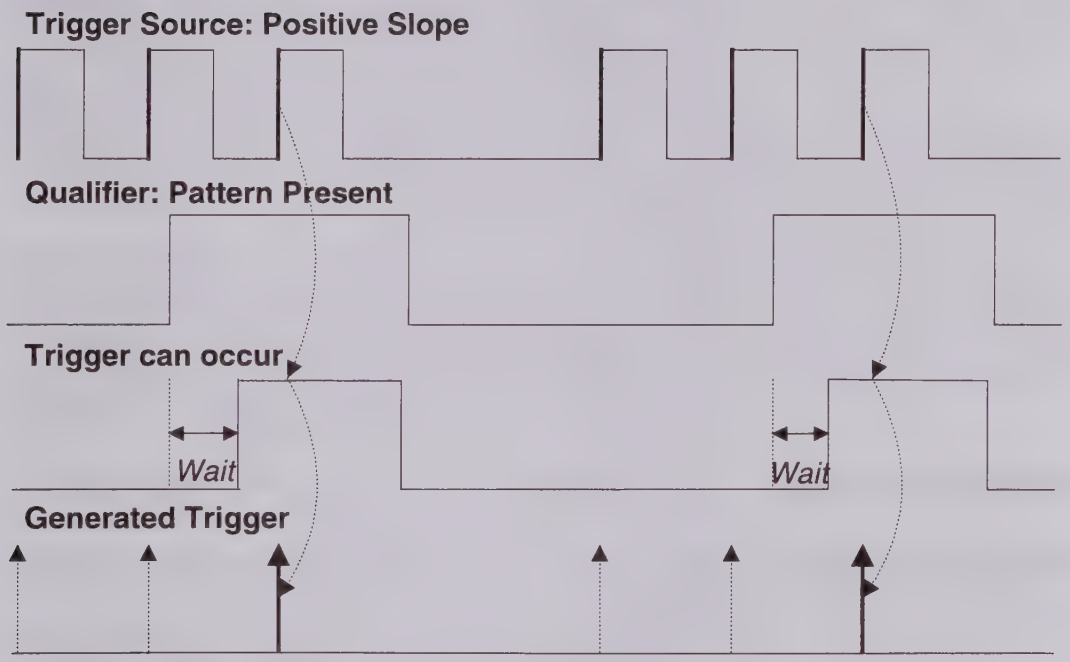
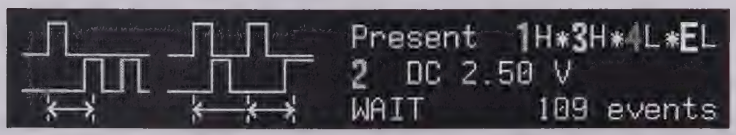


Figure 8–17. State-Qualified by Wait: Trigger after timeout. The broken upward-pointing arrows indicate potential triggers, while the bold arrows show where the actual triggers occurs.

As the above figure illustrates, a trigger is generated on a rising edge whenever the pattern is asserted (pattern present) and the wait timeout has expired. The timeout is, respectively, activated or disabled once the pattern is asserted or absent.



*The symbol shown here is that of an Edge-Qualified-with-event Wait trigger on CH 2 (*described next page*): positive slope, wait of 109 events, level of 2.50 V, and pattern present as indicated.*

Edge-Qualified with Wait Like its State-Qualified equivalent, Edge-Qualified with Wait (*Fig. 8–18*) is conditioned by either Time or Events:

- **Time** determines a delay from the start of the desired pattern. After the delay (timeout) and before the end of the pattern, a trigger can occur. The timing for the delay is restarted when the selected pattern begins.
- **Events** determines a minimum number of events for the trigger source. An event is generated when a trigger source meets its trigger conditions. A trigger can occur on the selected event of the trigger source and before the end of the pattern. The count is initialized and started whenever the selected pattern begins. It continues while the pattern remains. When the selected count is reached, the trigger occurs.

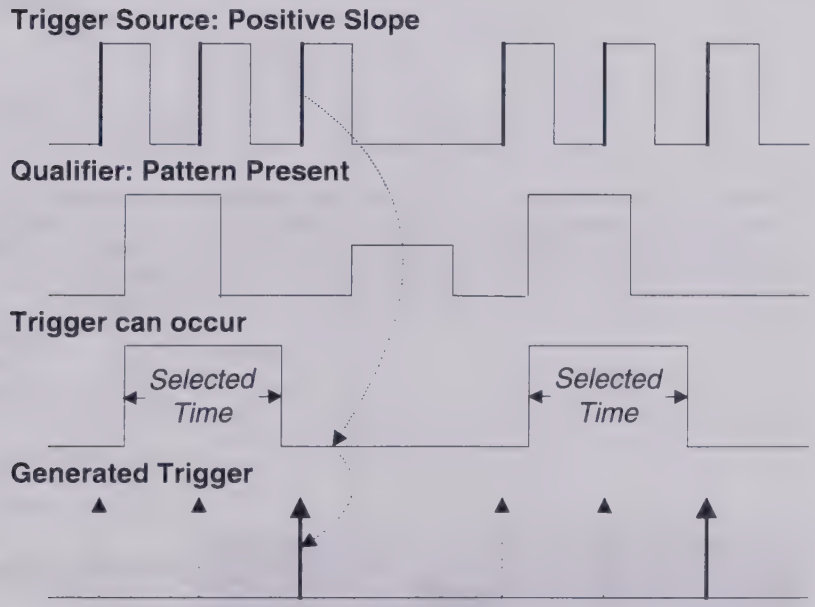


Figure 8–18. Edge-Qualified by Wait: Trigger after timeout. The broken upward-pointing arrows indicate potential triggers, while the bold ones show where the actual trigger occurs.

Qualified First

Qualified First Trigger (*Fig. 8–19*) is similar to the Qualified Triggers and presents exactly the same menus (*see page 8–44*). Qualified First is intended to be used exclusively in Sequence Mode to speed up the trigger rate. With Qualified First, a single valid trigger is sufficient to acquire a full sequence. Other than in Sequence Mode, Qualified First is identical to the Qualified Triggers.

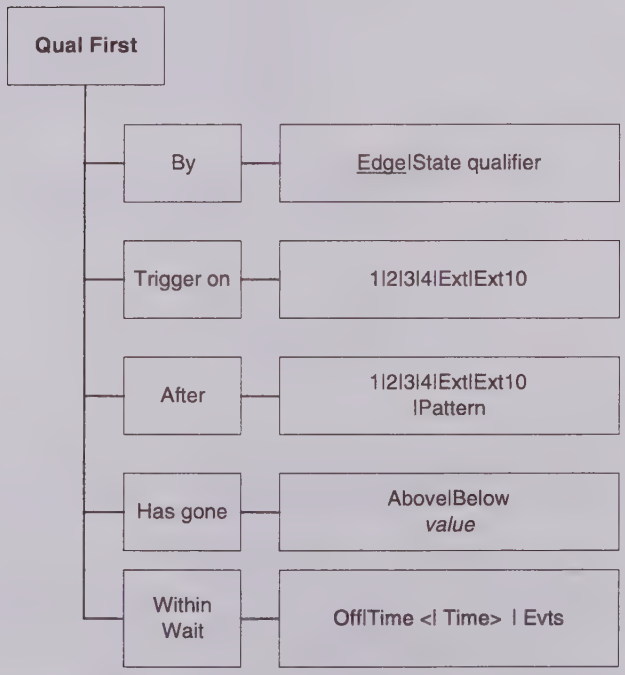


Figure 8–19. Qualified First Trigger Menus (see page 8–44).

Applications

In Data Storage, the index pulse can be defined as the qualifier signal and the servo gate signal as the trigger source.

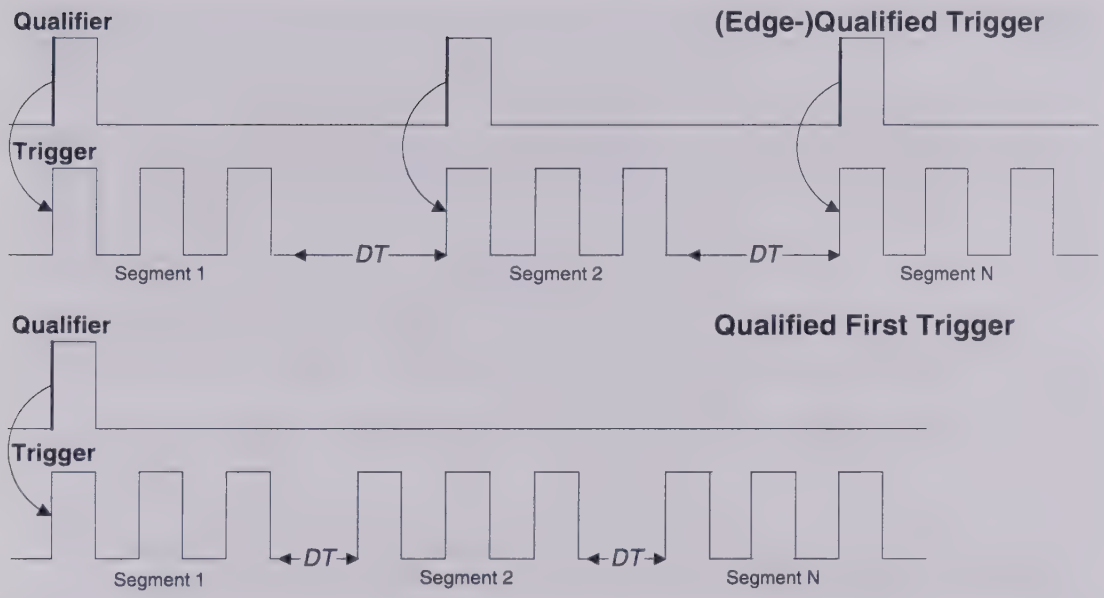
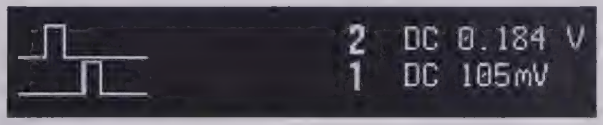


Figure 20. Comparing Qualified (top) and Qualified First (bottom) Triggers. Whereas the (Edge-) Qualified Trigger requires that each of the segments be "qualified" by a valid condition in Sequence Mode, Qualified First Trigger needs only a single valid condition to qualify a full sequence of segments. Note that the inter-segment deadtime (DT) is much shorter with Qualified First, which is used only in Sequence Mode.



Qualified First Trigger symbol.

TV Trigger

A special kind of Edge-Qualified Trigger, TV Trigger (*Fig. 8–21*) allows stable triggering on standard or user-defined composite video signals, on a specific line of a numerically odd or even field. TV Trigger can be used on PAL, SECAM or NTSC systems.

A composite video signal on the trigger input is analyzed to provide a signal for the beginning of the chosen field — "any", "odd" or "even" — and for a signal at the beginning of each line. The field signal provides the starting transition, and the beginnings of line pulses are counted to allow the final trigger on the chosen line. Each field, the number of fields, the field rate, interlace factor, and number of lines per picture must be specified — although there are standard settings for the most common types of TV signals. TV Trigger can also function in a simple any-line mode.

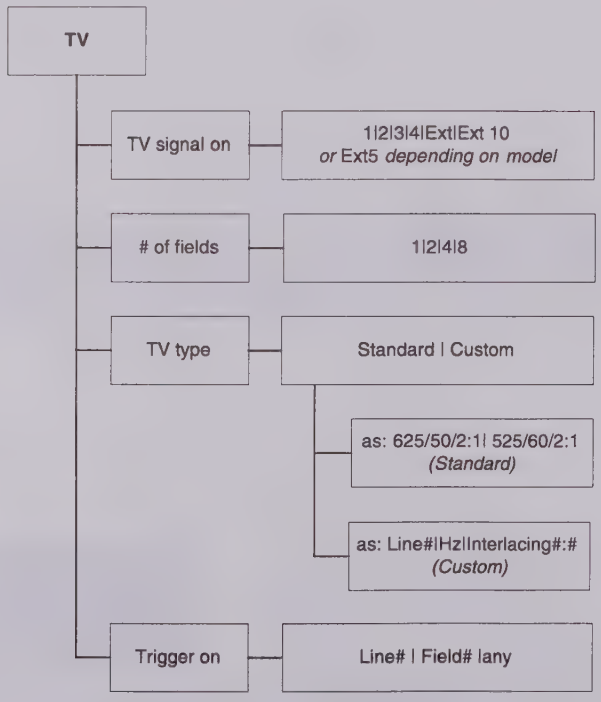


Figure 8–21. TV Trigger Menus (see page 8–39).

Notes for TV Trigger

- *Because most TV systems have more than two fields, the enhanced field-counting capability (FIELDLOCK) allows the oscilloscope to trigger consistently on a chosen line within a field of the signal. The field-numbering system is relative, in that the oscilloscope cannot distinguish between fields 1, 3, 5, or 7 (or 2, 4, 6, or 8) in an absolute way.*
- *For each of the characteristics the following remarks apply:*
  - *625/50/2:1 (PAL and SECAM systems)*

    This setting should be used for most of the standard 50-field signals. The lines may be selected in the range 1 to 626 where line 626 is identical to line 1.

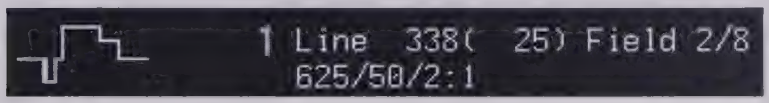
    Number of fields: "4" is most useful for color PAL signals; "8" for SECAM signals.
  - *525/60/2:1 (NTSC systems)*

    This setting should be used for standard 60-field NTSC signals. The lines can be selected in the range 1 to 1051, where line 1051 is identical to line 1.

    Number of fields: "4" is most useful for US-type NTSC systems.
  - *?/50/?, ?/60/?*

    In order to allow maximum flexibility, no line-counting convention is used. The line count should be thought of as a line-synchronizing pulse count. It includes the transitions of the equalizing pulses. For certain extreme cases, the field transition recognition will no longer work, and only the "any line" mode will be available.
- *The enhanced field-counting capability cannot be used for RIS acquisitions.*
- *Composite video signals must have negative-going synch to be decoded correctly.*

The TV Trigger symbol shown here indicates a trigger on Line 338 of an even field of a PAL/SECAM signal on CH 1. The "25" in parentheses is the number of the line selected in Field 1.



Dropout Trigger

Dropout Trigger (*Fig. 8–22)* provides triggering whenever the signal disappears for a set period of time. The trigger is generated at the end of the time-out period following the "last" trigger-source transition, as shown in the figure on the next page *(Fig. 8–23*). Time-outs of between 25 ns and 20 s (2 ns and 20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be selected.

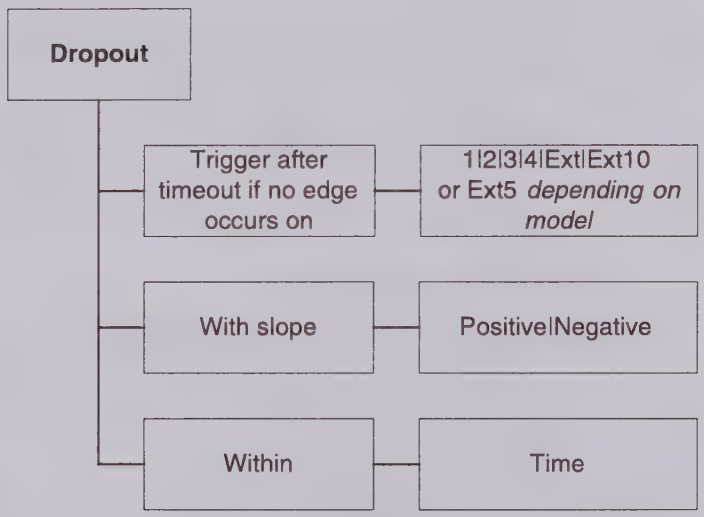


Figure 8–22. Dropout Trigger Menus (see page 8–42)

Dropout Applications

Dropout Trigger is useful for detecting interruptions in data streams such as network hang-ups and microprocessor crashes. A typical application is on the last 'normal' interval of a signal that has disappeared completely. This is essentially a single-shot application, usually with a pre-trigger delay. RIS acquisition is not useful here because the timing of the trigger timeout is insufficiently correlated to the input channel signals.

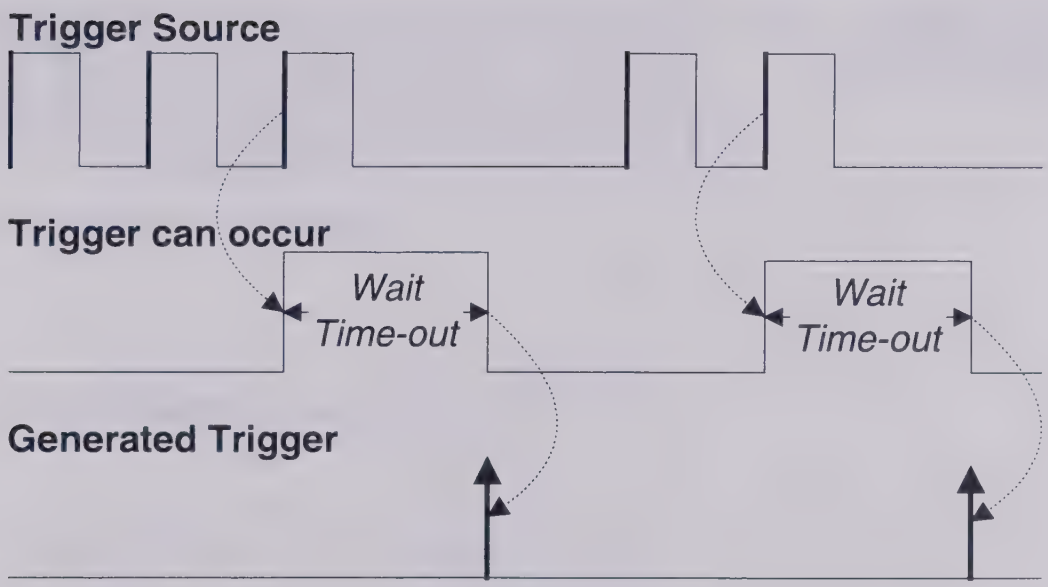
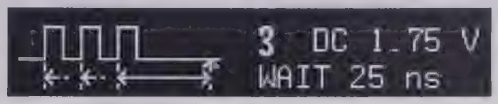


Figure 8–23. Dropout Trigger: occurs when the time-out has expired. The bold upward-pointing arrows show where the trigger occurs.



This Dropout Trigger symbol indicates a a wait time-out of 25 ns.

Runt Trigger
AVAILABLE ONLY ON LC564 AND LC584 SERIES

The Runt Trigger (*Fig. 8–24*) is programmed to occur when *a pulse crosses a first threshold line and fails to cross a second threshold line before re-crossing the first* (*Fig. 8–25*). Both thresholds are able to be selected within a range of 600 ps–20 s. Other defining conditions for this trigger are the edge (triggers on the opposite slope to that selected) and the runt width.

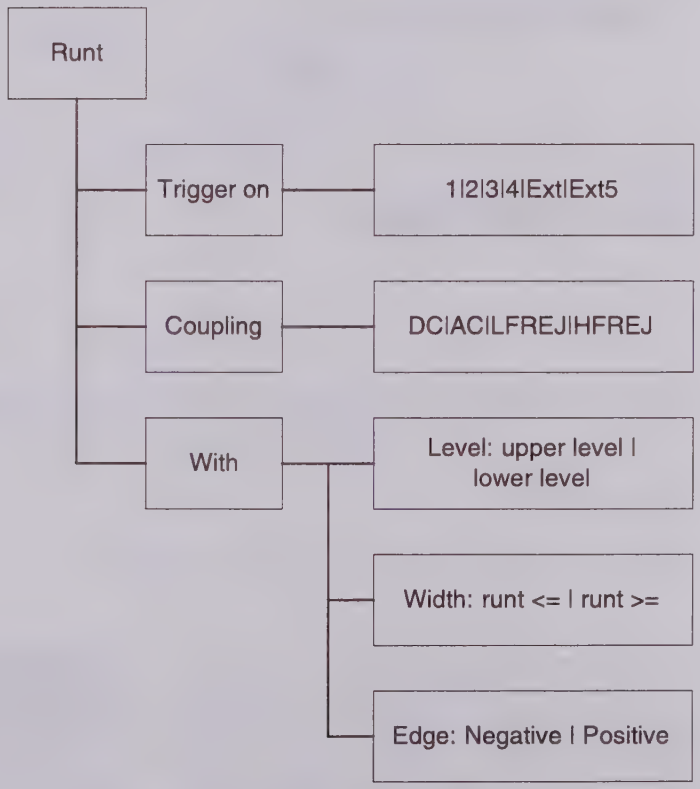


Figure 8–24. Runt Trigger Menus (see page 8–45).

Runt Applications

Runt Trigger is particularly helpful for detecting meta-stable conditions in digital design.

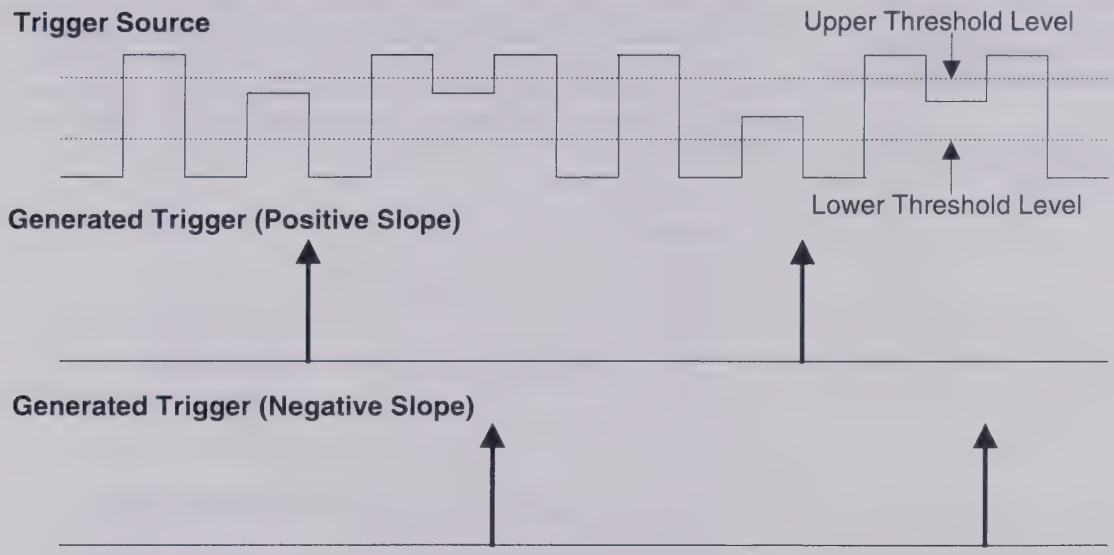
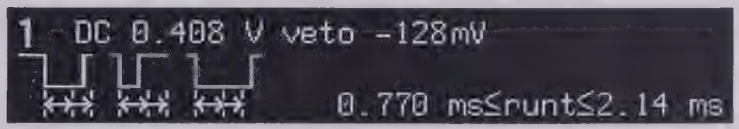


Figure 8–25. Runt Trigger: triggers when a pulse crosses the first threshold but not the second before re-crossing the first — marked by the bold, upward-pointing arrows.



The symbol indicates a positive edge ("Neg" was selected to obtain this), the difference between the two threshold levels ("veto"), and the runt width.

Slew Rate Trigger

AVAILABLE ONLY ON LC564 AND LC584 SERIES

Slew Rate Trigger (*Fig. 8–26*) activates a trigger when the *rising or falling edge of a pulse crosses two threshold levels: an upper and a lower level* (*Fig. 8–27*). The pulse edge must cross the thresholds either faster or slower than a selected period of time. Both thresholds are able to be selected within a range of 600 ps–20 s.

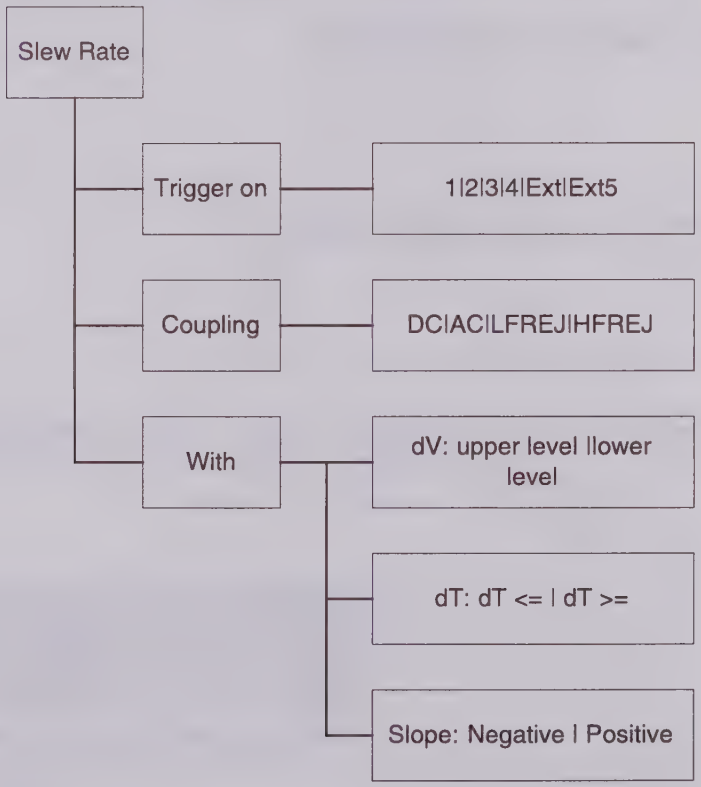


Figure 8–26. Slew Rate Trigger Menus (see page 8–46)

Applications

Slew Rate Trigger is useful for measuring risetime or falltime in digital design, minimizing reflections.

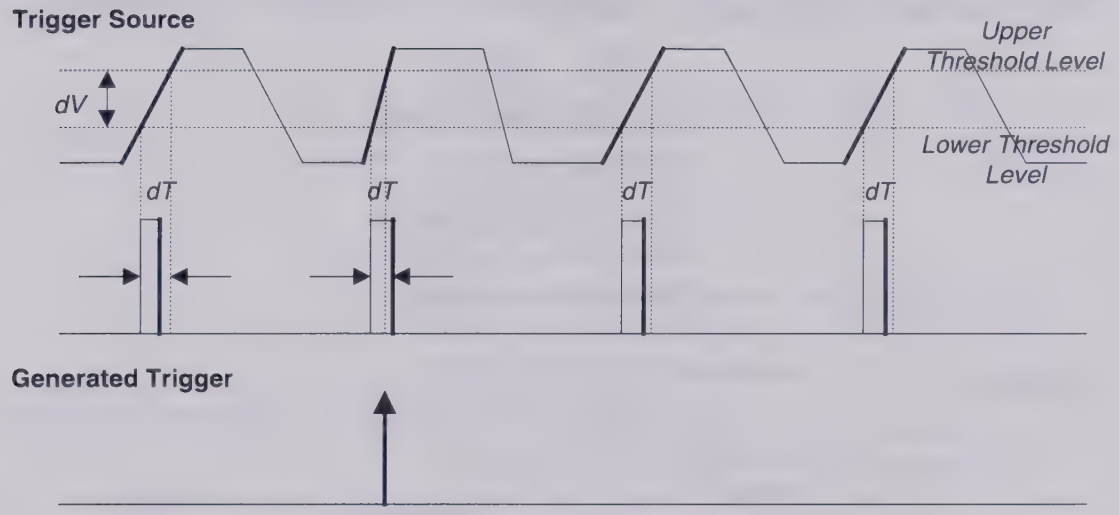
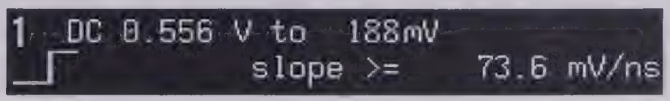
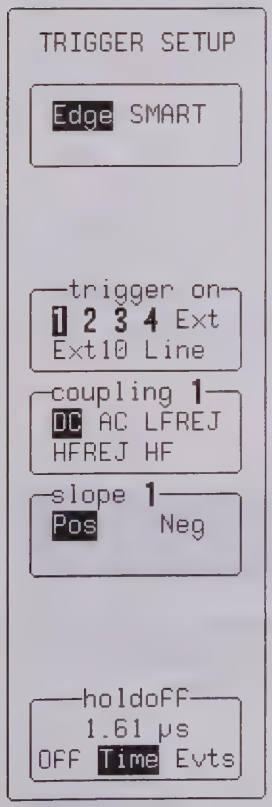


Figure 8–27. Slew Rate Trigger: occurs when a rising or falling edge crosses two thresholds (dV) outside a selected time range (dT), marked by the bold, upward-pointing arrow.



The Slew Rate symbol is the same as the Edge Trigger symbol, but indicates lower (0.556 V) and upper (188 m) threshold levels, and a time range — here, ≥ 73.6 ns.

TRIGGER SETUP: Edge



SETUP TRIGGER

Press **to access selection of:**

- **Trigger source,**
- **Coupling for each source,**
- **Slope (positive or negative), and**
- **Hold-off by time or events.**

Edge/SMART

To select "**Edge**" (*for an explanation of Edge Trigger, refer to page 8–3*).

trigger on

For selecting the trigger source.

coupling

To select the trigger coupling for the current source.

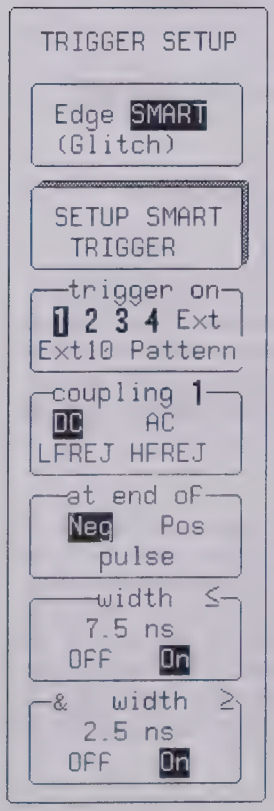
slope

To place the trigger point on either the "**Pos**"-itive or "**Neg**"-ative slope of the selected source. ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES ONLY:*** This menu also offers "**Window**", which allows triggering whenever the input signal leaves a specified voltage window (*refer to previous page*). When this is selected, a "window size" menu becomes available, which allows the window to be defined around a trigger level set with the LEVEL knob.

holdoff

To allow the disabling of the oscilloscope's trigger circuit for a definable period of time or number of events *after* a trigger event occurs. The hold-off can be defined as a either a period of "**Time**", or a number of "**Evts**" (events: changes in the input signal that satisfy trigger conditions). The menu knob is used to vary the "holdoff" value. Time values in the range 10 ns–20 s, or 2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES*** may be entered. Event counts in the range 1–99 999 999 are allowed.

TRIGGER SETUP: SMART



SETUP TRIGGER

Press **to access the various SMART Trigger types:**

- **Glitch** (*see page 8-36*)
- **Exclusion** (*see page 8-36*)
- **Interval** (*see page 8–38*)
- **TV** (*see page 8–39*)
- **State- and Edge-Qualified** (*see pages 8–40, 8–41*)
- **Dropout** (*see page 8–42*)
- **Pattern** (*see page 8-43*)
- **Qual First** (*see page 8-44*)
- **Runt — *LC564 AND LC584 SERIES*** (*see page 8–45*)
- **Slew Rate — *LC564 AND LC584 SERIES*** (*see page 8–46*).

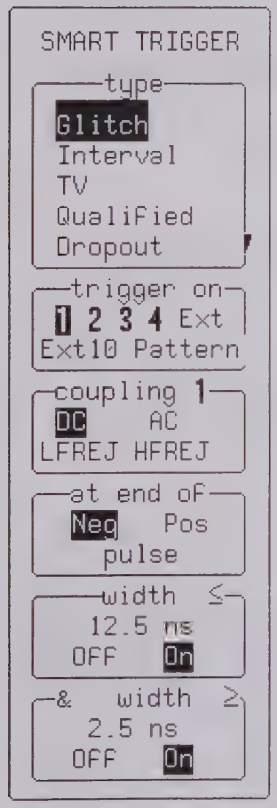
Edge/SMART

To select "**SMART**"

SETUP SMART TRIGGER

This primary menu accesses the "SMART TRIGGER" menu group, for choosing the type of SMART Trigger required from the "type" secondary menu. *Descriptions of the "type" and other associated SMART menu selections start next page.*

SMART TRIGGER — Glitch



type

To select "**Glitch**" (*for an explanation of Glitch Trigger, refer to page 8–9*).

- **Exclusion Trigger** is also set using these menus — *refer to page 8–11.*

trigger on

For selecting the trigger source.

coupling

To select the trigger coupling. HF coupling is not available.

at end of

To define the test on either "**Pos**"-itive or "**Neg**"-ative pulses.

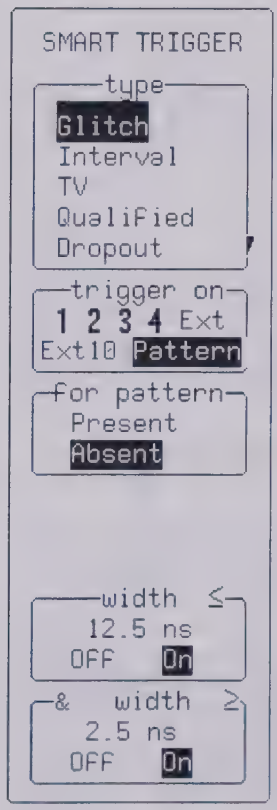
width ≤

"**On**" instructs the instrument to trigger if the pulse is less than or equal to the value defined here. The value can be adjusted with the associated menu knob, while the test can be turned on or off by pressing the menu button, and used in combination with "width ≥". Width values in the range 2.5 ns to 20 s (600 ps–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be entered.

&/OR width ≥

"**On**" instructs the instrument to trigger if the pulse is greater than or equal to the value defined here. The value can be adjusted using the associated menu knob, and the test turned on or off with the menu button, and used in combination with "width ≤". The two width limits are combined to target glitches within ("&") a certain range if the "width ≤" value is greater than the "width ≥" value. "OR" indicates that glitches above or below this range will be targeted. width values in the range 2.5 ns to 20 s (600 ps–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be entered.

SMART TRIGGER — Glitch — Pattern



When "**Pattern**" is selected from "trigger on" in Glitch mode (*and also in Interval mode — see next page*), the instrument triggers on the logic AND of up to five sources.

type

To select "**Glitch**" (*for an explanation of Glitch Trigger, refer to page 8–9*).

trigger on

To select "**Pattern**".

for pattern

For selecting pattern "**Present**" or "**Absent**".

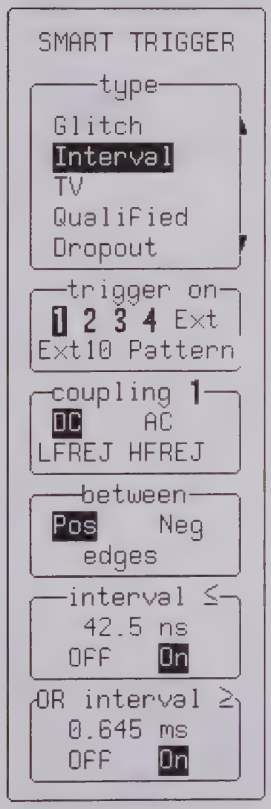
width ≤

To trigger if the pattern is present or absent for less than or the same amount of time value here defined. The value can be adjusted with the associated menu knob and the test commuted to "≥" by pressing the corresponding menu button. Width values in the range 2.5 ns to 20 s (600 ps–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be entered.

&/OR width ≥

To trigger if the pattern is present or absent for more than or the same amount of time as the value here defined. The value can be adjusted and the test commuted to "≤ " as per "width ≤ ". Width values in the range 2.5 ns to 20 s (600 ps–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) can be entered.

SMART TRIGGER — Interval



type

To select "**Interval**" (*for an explanation of Interval Trigger, refer to page 8–12*).

trigger on

For selecting the trigger source. When "**Pattern**" is selected the instrument triggers on the logic AND of up to five sources, and menus are displayed as in Glitch-Pattern mode (*see previous page*).

coupling

For selecting the trigger coupling. HF coupling is not available.

between

To define the interval between two adjacent "**Pos**"-itive or "**Neg**" -ative edges.

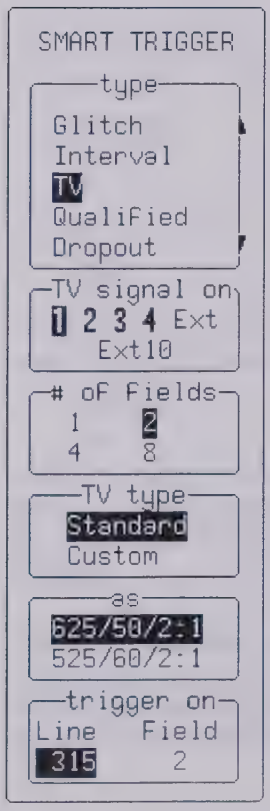
interval ≤

To trigger if the interval is less than or equal to the value here defined, which can be adjusted using the associated knob. The test can be turned on or off with the corresponding menu button, and can be used in combination with the "interval ≥" test. Interval values in the range 10 ns to 20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) may be entered.

&/OR interval ≥

To trigger if the interval is greater than or equal to the value defined here, which can be adjusted using the associated menu knob The test can be turned on or off using the corresponding menu button, and can be used in combination with the "interval ≤" test. The two interval limits are combined to select intervals within ("&") a range if the "interval ≤" value is greater than the "interval ≥" value. "OR" they can be combined to select intervals on either side of this range. Interval values in the range 10 ns to 20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***) may be entered.

SMART TRIGGER — TV



type

To select "**TV**" (*for an explanation of TV Trigger, refer to page 8–26*).

TV signal on

For selecting the trigger source.

# of fields

To define the field number: odd or even.

TV type

For selecting either "**Standard**" or "**Custom**" TV decoding.

as

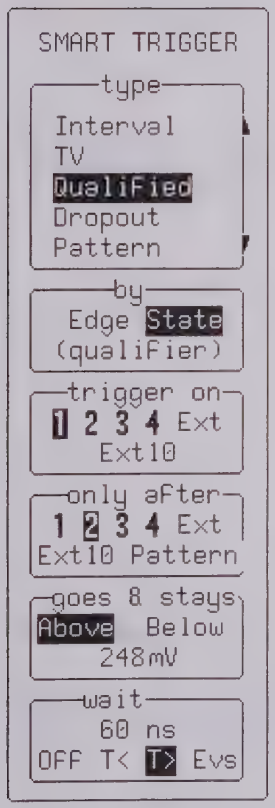
When "**Standard**" is chosen, for selecting either "**625/50/2:1**" (PAL SECAM) or "**525/60/2:1**" (NTSC) standards.

When "**Custom**" is selected, for specifying the number of lines and cycles, and setting the interlacing factor for non-standard TV signals.

trigger on

For selecting the line and field on which to trigger. When it is matter of indifference that a line be defined (done using the lower menu knob) "Field" changes to "any" to allow triggering on an unknown line.

SMART TRIGGER — Qualified — State



type

To select "**Qualified**" (*for an explanation of State-Qualified Trigger, refer to page 8–21*).

by

To select "**State**".

trigger on

To select the trigger source. Other conditions for this source, such as slope and hold-off, may be set up using Edge Trigger (*see page 8–34*).

only after

To select the qualifier source. Other conditions for this source, such as slope and hold-off, may be set up using Edge Trigger (*see page 8–34*). "**Pattern**" selected as the qualifier source offers the choice of pattern "Present" or "Absent" in the menu below.

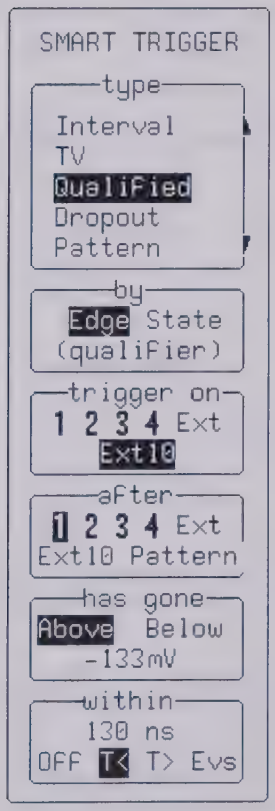
goes & stays

For selecting the qualifier threshold using the associated knob, and using the menu button to select whether the qualifier signal will be valid either "**Above**" or "**Below**" that threshold. "**Pattern**" selected as the qualifier source in the menu above offers the choice of pattern "Present" or "Absent".

wait/within

To specify the time limit ("within" "**T<**") for accepting the trigger event. Alternatively, to specify how much time ("wait" "**T>**") or how many trigger events ("wait" "**Evs**") should be allowed before the acquisition is taken on the next trigger event. The qualifier signal must remain valid until the final trigger has been received. The time value can be chosen in the range 10 ns–20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***). The trigger event count can be chosen in the range 1–99 999 999.

SMART TRIGGER — Qualified — Edge



type

To select "**Qualified**" (*for an explanation of Edge-Qualified Trigger, refer to page 8–23*).

by

To select "**Edge**".

trigger on

To select the trigger source. Other conditions for this source, such as slope and hold-off, may be set up using Edge Trigger (*see page 8–34*).

after

To select the qualifier source. Other conditions for this source, such as slope and hold-off, may be set up using Edge Trigger (*see page 8–34*). "**Pattern**" selected as the qualifier source offers the choice of pattern "Present" or "Absent" in the menu below.

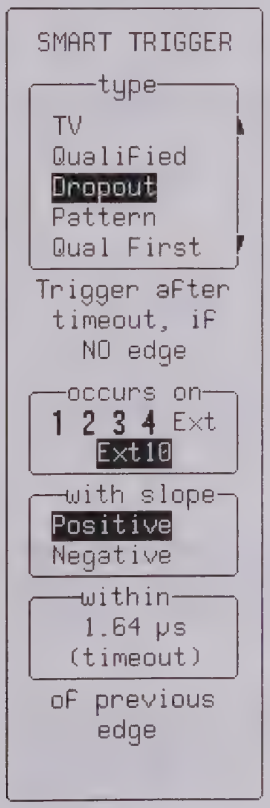
has gone

To adjust the qualifier threshold and determine whether the qualifier signal is valid once it "has gone" above or below that threshold. "**Pattern**" selected as the qualifier source in the menu above offers the choice of pattern "Present" or "Absent".

wait/within

To specify the time limit ("within" "**T<**") for accepting the trigger event. Or, to specify the delay in time ("wait" "**T>**") or number of trigger events ("wait" "**Evs**") after a valid transition has occurred. A trigger can only be accepted after this delay. Any subsequent qualifier event restarts this count. The time value can be chosen in the range 10 ns–20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES***). The trigger event count can be chosen in the range 1–99 999 999.

SMART TRIGGER — Dropout



type

To select "**Dropout**" (*for an explanation of Dropout Trigger, refer to page 8–42*).

Trigger after timeout, if NO edge

occurs on

For selecting the trigger source .

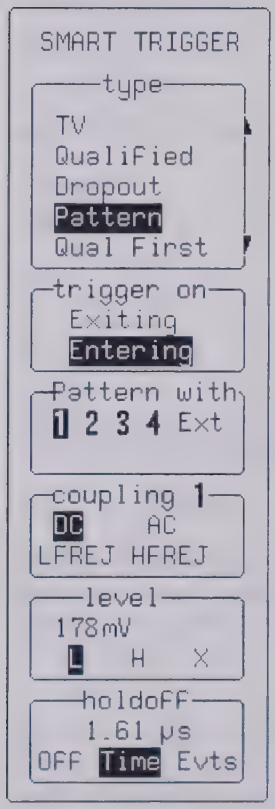
with slope

To define whether the measurement starts on a "**Positive**" or "**Negative**" slope of the trigger signal.

within... of previous edge

For defining the time-out value in the range 25 ns–20 s (2 ns–20 s for the *LC564 AND LC584 SERIES*).

SMART TRIGGER — Pattern



type

To select "**Pattern**" (*for an explanation of Pattern Trigger, refer to page 8–17*).

trigger on

To select "**Entering**" for the instrument to trigger when the pattern starts being *true*, and "**Exiting**" for triggering when it stops being *true*.

Pattern with

For selecting the channel to be modified using the lower menus' corresponding menu buttons.

coupling

To select the desired coupling. HF coupling is not available.

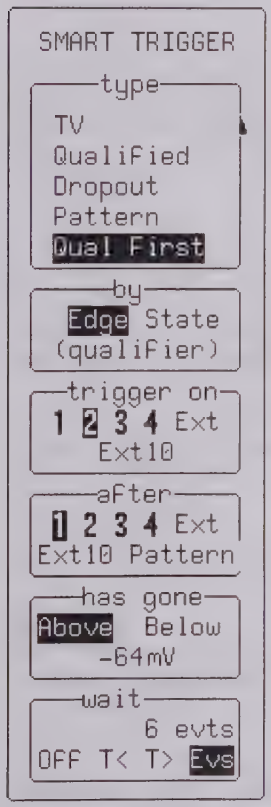
level

For modifying these values using the associated knob — adjusts the level — and the corresponding menu button, which chooses "**L**" (low), "**H**" (high), or "**X**" (Don't care).

holdoff

To disable the trigger circuit for a definable period of time or number of events *after* a trigger event (a change in the input signal that satisfies the trigger conditions). When not turned off, holdoff can be defined as a period of "**Time**" or a number of "**Evts**" (events). Use the associated menu knob to vary the "holdoff" value. Time holdoff values in the range 10 ns–20 s (2 ns–20 s for the ***LC564 and LC584A***) may be entered. Event counts in the range 1–99 999 999 are allowed.

SMART TRIGGER — Qualified First



type

To select "**Qual First**" (*for an explanation of Qualified First Trigger, refer to page 8–24*).

by

To select "**Edge**" or "**State**".

trigger on

To select the trigger source. Other conditions for this source, such as slope and hold-off, may be set up using Edge Trigger (*see page 8–34*).

after

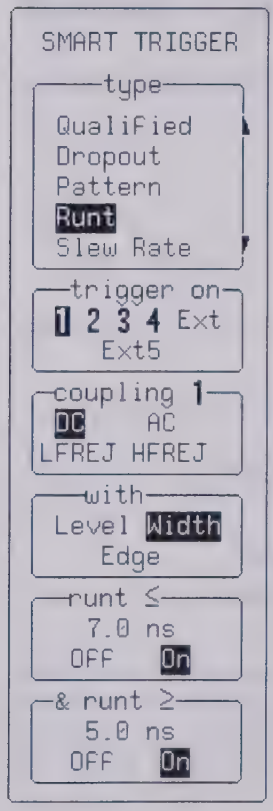
To select the qualifier source. Other conditions for this source, such as slope and hold-off, may be set up using Edge Trigger (*see page 8–34*). "**Pattern**" selected as the qualifier source determines whether the pattern should be "Present" or "Absent".

has gone

To adjust the qualifier threshold and determine whether the qualifier signal is valid once it "has gone" above or below that threshold. "**Pattern**" selected as the qualifier source in the menu above offers the choice of pattern "Present" or "Absent".

wait/within

To specify the time limit ("wait" "**T<**") for accepting the trigger event. Or, to specify the delay in time ("wait" "**T>**") or number of trigger events ("wait" "**Evs**") after a valid transition has occurred. A trigger can only be accepted after this delay. Any subsequent qualifier event restarts this count. The time value can be chosen in the range 10 ns–20 s, and the trigger event count in the range 1–99 999 999.



type

To select "**Runt**" (*for an explanation of Runt Trigger, refer to page 8–30*).

trigger on

For selecting the trigger source.

coupling

For selecting the trigger coupling. HF coupling is not available.

with

To select and set the three defining conditions for the Runt Trigger:

➢ When "**Level**" is selected (*not shown*), these menus appear:

upper level

To set the level of the upper threshold through which the runt must pass.

lower level

To set the level of the lower threshold through which the runt must pass.

➢ When "**Width**" is selected, the following menus appear (*as illustrated*). The two width limits can be combined to select runt pulses within ("&" will appear in the second menu) a certain range if the "runt ≤" value is greater than the "runt ≥" value. Or they can be combined to select runts outside this range (when "OR" will appear).

runt ≤

When "**On**", there will be a trigger if the runt pulse width is less than or equal to the defined value (600 ps–20 s), adjusted with the associated menu knob. The test is be turned on or off using the menu button, in combination with "runt ≥".

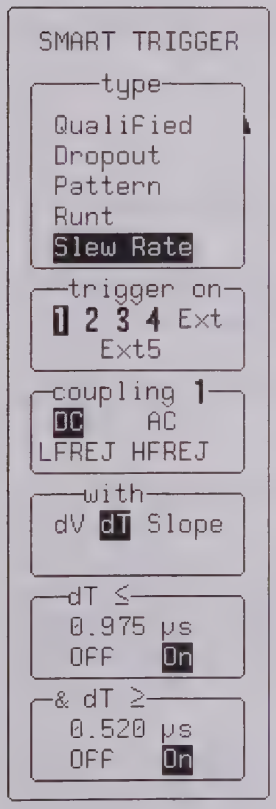
&/OR runt ≥

When "**On**", there will be a trigger if the runt pulse width is greater than or equal to the defined value (600 ps–20 s), adjusted with the associated menu knob. This condition can be turned on or off using the menu button and used in combination with "runt ≤".

➢ When "**Edge**" is selected (*not shown*), the "at end of" menu appears, allowing the trigger to be defined as occurring *at the end of* either a "Negative" or a "Positive" runt slope.

SMART TRIGGER — Slew Rate

LC564 AND LC584 SERIES ONLY



type

To select "**Slew Rate**" (*for an explanation of Slew Rate Trigger, refer to page 8–32*).

trigger on

For selecting the trigger source.

coupling

For selecting the trigger coupling.

with

To select and set the three defining conditions for the Slew Rate Trigger:

- When "**dV**" is selected (*not shown*), the following menus appear:

  upper level

  For selecting the level of the upper threshold.

  lower level

  For selecting the level of the lower threshold.

- When "**dT**" is selected, these menus appear below:

  dT ≤

  When "**On**", there will be a trigger if the time is less than or equal to the defined value (600 ps–20 s), adjusted with the associated menu knob. This condition can be turned on or off using the menu button, in combination with "dT ≥". Values of can be entered.

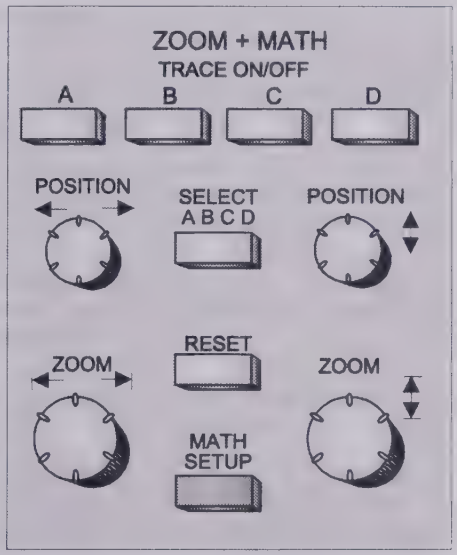
  &/OR dT ≥

  When "**On**", there will be a trigger if the time is greater than or equal to the defined value (600 ps–20 s), adjusted using the associated menu knob. This condition can be turned on or off with the menu button and used in combination with "dT ≤". They can be combined to select pulses within ("&") a certain range if the "dT≤" value is greater than the "dT≥" value. "OR" they can be combined to select pulses on either side of this range.

- When "**Slope**" is selected (*not shown*), the "with slope" menu appears, allowing the slope to be defined as "Negative" or "Positive".

ZOOM + MATH Controls

A wide range of Zoom and Mathematical processing functions (*detailed in the next chapter*) can be performed on acquired waveforms with the controls described here.



Four processed traces are available for normal zooming or for waveform mathematics. Any one of the traces A, B, C or D can be set up to zoom another of these, or another trace acquired on any channel or stored in one of the four reference memories M1–4. Trace A, for example, could be set up to zoom Trace B, C, or D, but not itself. The Displayed Trace label at left of screen indicates the source.

The **TRACE ON/OFF** buttons display the corresponding trace A, B, C or D. When a trace is switched on, the POSITION and ZOOM knobs and the RESET button (described next page) will then be attributed to this, the *active* trace.

The **SELECT ABCD** button assigns the controls to the active trace for adjustment, as only one trace can be modified at a time. Pressing this button activates the next trace, in A–D sequence.

The four ZOOM + MATH knobs adjust the horizontal and vertical positions and expansion factors of the zoomed trace...

The **POSITION** knob repositions zoomed traces *horizontally*. If the source of the expanded waveform is displayed, an intensified region corresponding to the area of expansion is shown.

Whereas the *vertically* repositions the active trace.

The **ZOOM** knob *horizontally* expands or contracts the active trace. If the source of the zoomed trace is also displayed, it will show an intensified region corresponding to the area of expansion.

While the *vertically* expands or contracts the active trace.

The **RESET** button resets the vertical and horizontal POSITION and ZOOM.

Finally, the menu-entry button accesses the zoom, math and sequence segment features. *See next chapter for details.*

Zooming for Precise Waveform Measurements

Several traces can be zoomed from a single waveform to obtain precise timing measurements.

For instance, on a waveform composed of two pulses separated by a long delay, Trace A could be made a zoom of the first pulse, and Trace B a zoom of the second.

The combination of long memory and zooming allows extremely accurate time interval measurements. And the time resolution on the viewed trace can be significantly improved.

For example, choosing 50 000 points per channel on a timebase of 0.1 ms/div, traces can be expanded to as much as 50 ns/div — a factor of 2000. Using Relative Time cursors (*see Chapter 14*), a delay of, say, 500 µs could be measured with resolution as high as 0.5 ns. Even with as many as eight million points acquired, zooming can be done until there are only a few points on the screen.

Using Multi-Zoom

With Multi-Zoom, the zoomed region of the waveform can be moved simultaneously along two or more different traces, or two or more regions of the same trace.

When "Multi-Zoom" "**On**" is selected from the "ZOOM – MATH" menu (*see page 10–8*), the horizontal zoom and position controls apply simultaneously to all displayed traces — A, B, C and D — allowing similar sections of different traces to be viewed at the same time. The vertical controls still act individually on the traces (*see previous chapter*) The highlighting of trace titles in the Displayed Trace label indicates an active Multi-Zoom.

Zooming Math Functions

When Trace A, B, C or D is defined as a mathematical function rather than as a simple zoom (*see next section*), the zoom controls remain operative and defining another trace as a zoom of the math function becomes unnecessary. In order to view the entire mathematical function, simply cancel any expansion or position change by pressing RESET.

Math Functions and Options

Coverage of the Setup menus for configuring zoom, math and waveform processing functions starts page 10–6. Averaging and Extrema are outlined on this and the following pages.
For details on Enhanced Resolution filtering, see Appendix B.
How to Set Up for FFT (Fast Fourier Transform) is explained at the conclusion of this chapter, while a complete description of FFT practice and theory is presented in Appendix C.

A wide range of standard or optional mathematical and waveform processing functions is available. Not all functions are described here. Those such as Histogram, Trend and Correlate are described in their packages' dedicated Operator's Manuals, when these functions are installed in the oscilloscope.

The scope's standard waveform mathematics functions consist of waveform negation, identity, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, summed averaging of up to 1000 waveforms and the (sin x)/x interpolation function.

The advanced waveform processing features include:

- Continuous Averaging (*menus page 10–10*);
- Summed Averaging of up to 1 000 000 waveforms (*menus 10–10*);
- Enhanced Resolution by up to 3 bits with filtering (*menus 10–11*);
- Extrema — envelope of many waveforms (*menus 10–12*);
- Fast Fourier Transform, including FFT averaging (*menus 10–13 and 10–14*);
- Mathematical Functions such as Integral, Derivative, Logarithm, Exponential, Square, and Square Root (*menus 10–15*);

Continuous Averaging

This is the repeated addition, with *unequal* weight, of successive source waveforms. It is particularly useful for reducing noise on signals that drift very slowly in time or amplitude.

However, the statistics of a continuous average tend to be worse than those from a summed average (*see next page*) on the same number of sweeps. This is because the most recently acquired waveform has more weight than all previously acquired ones: the continuous average is dominated by the statistical fluctuations of the most recently acquired.

The weight of 'old' waveforms in the continuous average gradually tends to zero (following an exponential rule) at a rate that decreases as the weight increases.

Summed Averaging

Summed Averaging is the repeated addition, with *equal* weight, of successive source waveform records. If a stable trigger is available, the resulting average has a random noise component lower than that of a single-shot record.

Whenever the maximum number of sweeps is reached, the averaging process stops. An even larger number can be accumulated simply by changing the number in the "SETUP" "for" menu. However, the other parameters must be left unchanged or a new averaging calculation will be started.

The process may be interrupted by changing the trigger mode from NORM to STOP or by turning off the active trace using the respective buttons. Averaging will be resumed when the inverse is done. The accumulated average is reset by pushing the CLEAR SWEEPS button or changing an acquisition parameter such as input gain, offset, coupling, trigger condition, timebase or bandwidth limit. The number of current averaged waveforms of the function or its expansion is shown in the Displayed Trace label.

When summed averaging is selected, the display is updated at a reduced rate — about once every 1.5 s — in order to increase the averaging speed (points and events per second).

Summed averaging can also be done on sequence waveforms to give the average of the segments. And it can be applied to an expansion of a sequence segment, giving the segment's average waveform over many sequence acquisitions.

Extrema Waveforms

These are computed by a repeated comparison of successive source waveform records with the already-accumulated extrema waveform, which consists of a maxima (roof) and a minima (floor) record. Whenever a given data point of the new waveform is greater than the corresponding maximum roof-record value, or less than the corresponding floor value, it replaces it. Thus the maximum and the minimum envelope of all waveform records is accumulated.

Roof and Floor records can be displayed individually or together.

Whenever the selected maximum number of sweeps is reached, the accumulation stops. The same process may be interrupted by changing the trigger mode from Normal to Stopped or by turning off the function trace. Accumulation will continue when these actions are reversed.

The currently accumulated extrema waveform may be reset by either pushing the CLEAR SWEEPS button or by changing an acquisition parameter such as input gain, offset, coupling, trigger condition, or the timebase- or bandwidth-limit. The number of currently accumulated waveforms is displayed in the function's Displayed Trace Label of that of its zoom expansion.

Whenever the maximum number of sweeps is reached, an even larger number can be accumulated simply by changing the number in the "SETUP" "for" menu. However, the other parameters must be left unchanged or the extrema calculation will be restarted.

Using Waveform Mathematics

Waveform mathematics can be applied to any channel or reference memory. And any trace of A, B, C or D can be set up as a math function, allowing several computations to be made in sequence.

For example: Trace A could be set up as the difference between Channels 1 and 2; Trace B defined as the average of A, and Trace C made the integral of B — thus displaying the integral of the averaged difference between Channels 1 and 2.

In order to avoid slowing down the instrument with unwanted computations, a particular mathematical function is only computed when its display is turned on. However, using the same example as above, it would be sufficient to display Trace C alone, as the instrument knows it must compute A and B as intermediate steps to C.

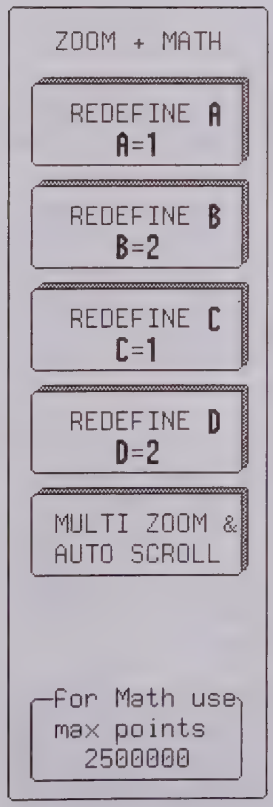
Waveform processing can also take time when many data points are involved. This delay can be cut by limiting the number of data points used in the computation. To do this, the instrument will process the entire waveform by taking every Nth point, where N depends on the timebase and the desired maximum number of points, and the first point taken is always the data value at the left-hand edge of the screen.

Combining Channels

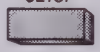
Zoom and math functions on Traces A, B, C, D and Reference Memories M1, M2, M3, M4 use the instrument's system memory, which is dynamically allocated to each trace as required. When more acquisition memory is achieved by combining channels, a single long trace can consume all the reference memory or zoom and math trace capacity in the instrument. When this happens, an on-screen warning message will avert accidental storing of a new trace to a reference memory already in use. *Refer to Chapter 7.*

***Note:** A processing title for each displayed trace will be shown in the Displayed Trace Label. If the title is missing, the desired processing cannot be done and the contents of the trace remain unchanged.*

Configuring for Zoom and Math



MATH SETUP

Press  **to enable the configuration of any of the four traces and execute any zoom, math function using the "ZOOM + MATH" menus.**

Any trace and function can be chained to another trace and function (*not all functions shown are necessarily available*). Trace A, for example, could be made an average of CH 1, Trace B an FFT of A, and Trace C a zoom of B. All traces can be viewed simultaneously on-screen using the TRACE ON/OFF buttons and any function can be zoomed directly.

REDEFINE A, B, C, or D

To select the trace to be redefined and accesses the "SETUP" menus (*described in the remainder of this chapter, using A as an example).*

MULTI ZOOM & AUTO SCROLL

For accessing Multi-Zoom and AUTO SCROLL functions (*see page 10–8*). With Multi-Zoom activated, all displayed zoom traces are simultaneously controlled by the horizontal POSITION and ZOOM knobs, and by Auto Scroll. When it is not used, only the active zoom trace is controlled. Auto Scroll displays the captured signal with a zoom expansion that automatically moves across the screen. The user can select the scroll speed, scroll through the acquired waveform and pause on any feature.

Selected *(NOT SHOWN)*

When a trace with a zoom of a sequence-mode waveform is selected, the "Selected" menu — not shown here — becomes accessible. Pressing the corresponding menu button toggles the selection between display of a single, specific "Segment" and "All Segments". With the former selected, the associated knob can be used to choose specific segments.

for Math use max points...

For selecting the maximum number of points for all math operations — a low number increases computation speed.

SETUP OF ... — appear when "REDEFINE A" (*for example*) is selected from the "ZOOM + MATH" menus.

use Math?

For toggling between "**No**" (Zoom only) and "**Yes**" (Math functions) SETUP.

Trace A, B, C or D is ZOOM of

To select the source trace to be zoomed.

AUTO SCROLL — appears when "ZOOM and Auto-Scroll" is selected from the "ZOOM +MATH" menu group. MULTI-ZOOM unifies the control of all zoom traces, while AUTO-SCROLL walks the zoom trace or traces across the referenced trace.

MultiZoom

When "**Off**", only the active zoom trace is controlled. When "**On**", all displayed zoom traces (A,B,C,D) are simultaneously controlled (automatically) with Auto Scroll and (manually) with the horizontal ZOOM and POSITION knobs.

PLAY ▶

To scroll the zoom trace from right to left of screen. When playing, the menu is labeled "STOP (PLAYING)": Press to stop.

◀ REVERSE

To scroll the zoom trace from left to right of screen. When playing, the menu is labeled "STOP (REVERSING)": Press to stop.

Scroll by

To scroll by divisions per second or number of divisions. Use "**div/s**" to scroll continuously for visualization. Use "**number of div**" for waveform processing — especially Pass/Fail testing. When processing is complete, the display will be updated by the number of divisions set.

Speed

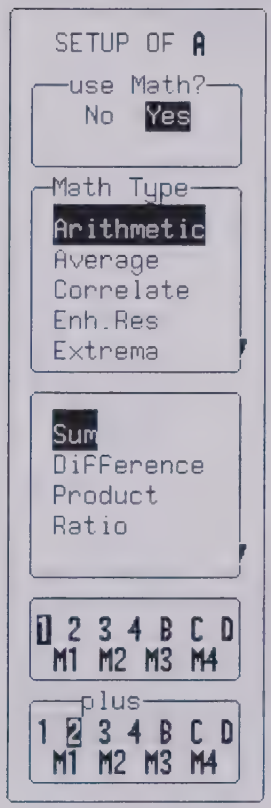
To set scroll speed, using the knob. When scrolling by divisions, "10 div" will step the zoom trace "grid-page" by "grid-page" across the length of the referenced trace.

RETURN WHILE SCROLLING

While continuing scrolling, to return, by pressing the menu button, to the previous menus.

***Note:** If the standard "RETURN" button is pressed, the waveform will stop scrolling while the previous menu will be displayed.*

Arithmetic — allows addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, as well as choice of the two operands and the operator. The example on this page shows a setup of trace A as the sum of Channels 1 and 2.



use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

To select "**Arithmetic**".

Sum
Difference
Product
Ratio

For selecting the operator.

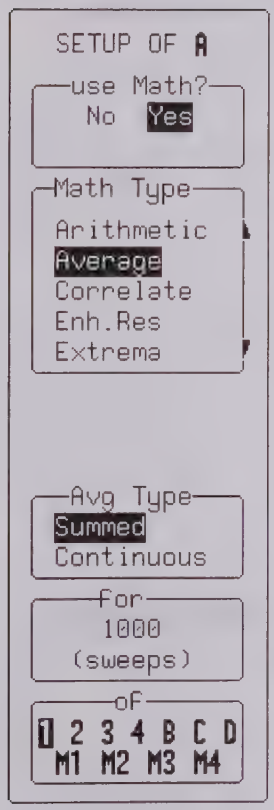
1 2 3 4 B C D
M1 M2 M3 M4

To select one of two operand source traces.

plus 1 2 3 4 B C D
M1 M2 M3 M4

To select the other operand source trace.

Average



— offers Summed (Linear) or Continuous (Exponential) Averaging. Shown here is an example setup of trace A as a Summed Average (over 1000 sweeps) of Channel 1. *See also page 10–2.*

use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

To select, in this case, "**Average**".

Avg Type

To select "**Summed**" or "**Continuous**".

for / with

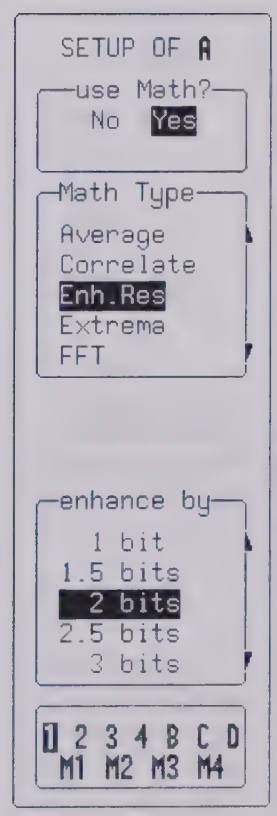
When "**Summed**" Average is selected, the "for…sweeps" menu appears for defining the number of sweeps. But when "**Continuous**" Average is chosen, the same menu becomes "with…weighting" and is used to define the weight. The difference between the two choices is that when "**Summed**" ("for") is selected the *first* n sweeps will be taken into account, whereas in "**Continuous**" "weight", in calculating the new average, the *last* sweep will be given a weight of 1 and the previous result a weight of n.

of

For selecting the source trace for averaging.

Enhanced Resolution — allows the selection of low-pass digital filters that increase the resolution of the displayed signal at the expense of its bandwidth. *See Appendix B for a detailed explanation.*

These digital filters work very much like analog bandwidth-limit ones. In Single-Shot mode, they and the sampling speed affect bandwidth. If high bandwidth is needed at slow timebases, averaging and repetitive sampling should be considered



use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

To select "**Enhanced Resolution**".

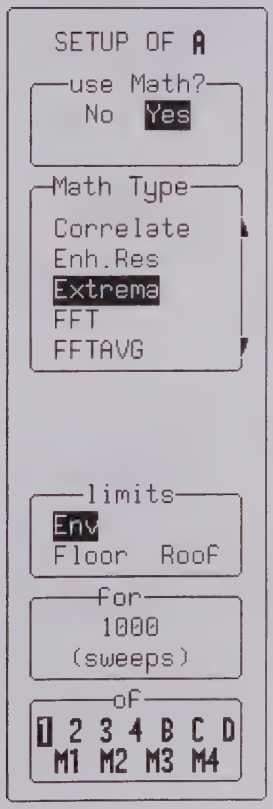
enhance by

For selecting the filter that will enhance resolution of the displayed signal from one to three bits in 0.5-bit steps.

1 2 3 4 B C D
M1 M2 M3 M4

To select the source trace for filtering.

Extrema — used for acquiring a trace envelope over many acquisitions (*see also page 10–3*).



use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

To select "**Extrema**".

limits

To select either "**Envelope**", "**Floor**" or "**Roof**". Floor shows only the lower, and Roof only the upper part of the envelope. Changing the limits does not force the analysis to start again.

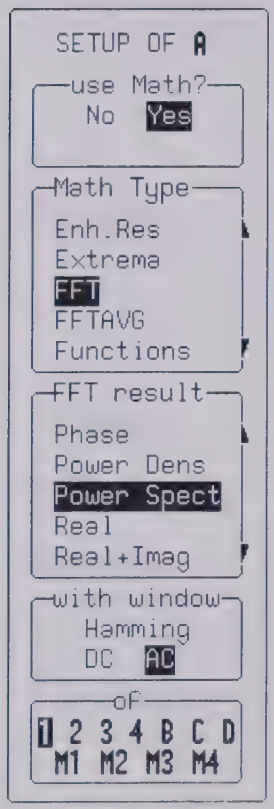
for

For selecting the number of sweeps.

of

To select the source trace.

FFT — used to display the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) of a signal and visualize it in the frequency domain. *See the final section of this chapter, and Appendix C, for when and how to use FFT.*



use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

For selecting "**FFT**".

FFT result

To select the FFT's output format: "**Imaginary**", "**Magnitude**", "**Phase**", "**Power Dens**"-ity, "**Power Spect**"-rum, "**Real**" or "**Real + Imag**".

with window

Using the corresponding menu button to select the FFT window type. And the associated knob to select "**AC**" or "**DC**".

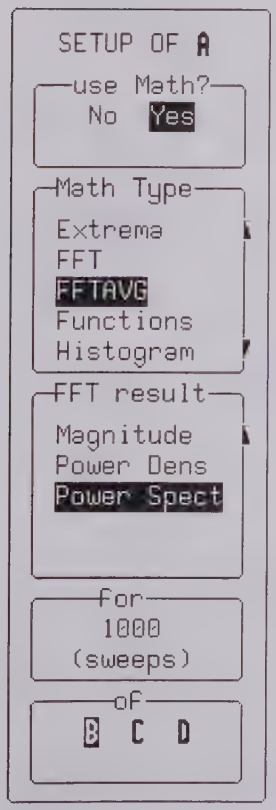
of

For selecting the source trace.

Notes

- ***During Fast Fourier Transform computation the FFT sign is displayed in the lower right-hand corner of the screen.***
- ***The computation of FFT on long time-domain records can take time.***
- ***The computation can be interrupted or aborted at any time using any front-panel control.***

FFT Average — used for displaying the FFT power averaging of an FFT source trace, power averaging being useful for characterizing broadband noise or periodic signals without a stable trigger signal. Total power — signal and noise — is measured at each frequency. The source trace must be an FFT function. *See the final section of this chapter, and Appendix C, for when and how to use FFT.*



use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

To select "**FFT AVG**".

FFT result

To select the output format of the FFT Average: "**Magnitude**", "**Power Density**", "**Power Spectrum**".

for

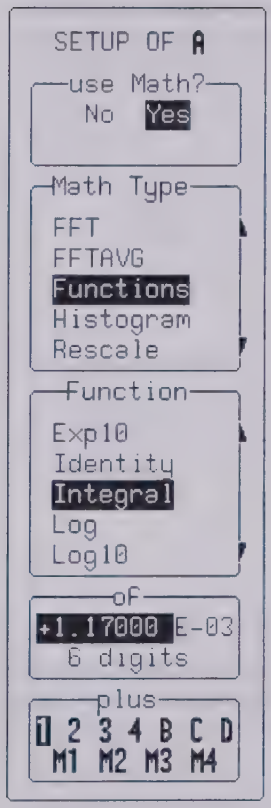
For selecting the number of sweeps.

of

To select the FFT source.

***Note:** FFT Average can be reset by pressing CLEAR SWEEPS. The number of currently accumulated waveforms is then shown in the Displayed Trace field of the function or its expansion.*

Functions — gives access to a menu offering a variety of Math display functions.



use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

For selecting "**Functions**".

Function

To select a function type from:

- "**Absolute value**"
- "**Derivative**"
- "**Exp (base e)**"
- "**Exp 10 (base 10)**"
- "**Identity**"
- "**Integral**"
- "**Log (base e)**"
- "**Log 10 (base 10)**"
- "**Negation**"
- "**Reciprocal**"
- "**Sinx/x**"
- "**Square**"
- "**Square root**"

of

For selecting the signal offset (used to compensate for any DC offset in the signal).

plus

For selecting the source trace.

Notes for Math Functions

- ***Square root is computed on the absolute value of the source waveform.***
- ***For logarithmic and exponential functions the numerical value (without units) of the input waveform is used.***
- ***For the integral function the source waveform may be offset by an Additive Constant in the range -10^{16} to $+10^{16}$ times the vertical unit of the source waveform.***

Resample

This deskew feature allows a signal on one channel to be resampled, and adjusted in time relative to a signal on another channel. It is valuable wherever there is the need to compensate for different lengths of cables, probes or other factors causing timing mismatches.

use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

To select "**Resample**".

Delay By

To select, using the associated menu knob (range = ± 2000 ns), the adjustment to be made (deskew) that will compensate for the timing differences between signals on two channels.

1 2 3 4 B C D
M1 M2 M3 M4

To select the source trace.

Rescale — for selecting a waveform and adjusting *a*, the multiplication factor, and *b*, the additive constant, in:

$$(a * \text{waveform}) + b,$$

where both constants can have values ranging between -10^{15} and $+10^{15}$.

use Math?

To choose a math function.

Math Type

For selecting "**Rescale**".

(a * 1) + b

To select "**a**" or "**b**".

a = / b =

The corresponding menu button for this menu highlights the mantissa, the exponent, or the number of digits, while the associated knob changes the highlighted value.

1 2 3 4 B C D
M1 M2 M3 M4

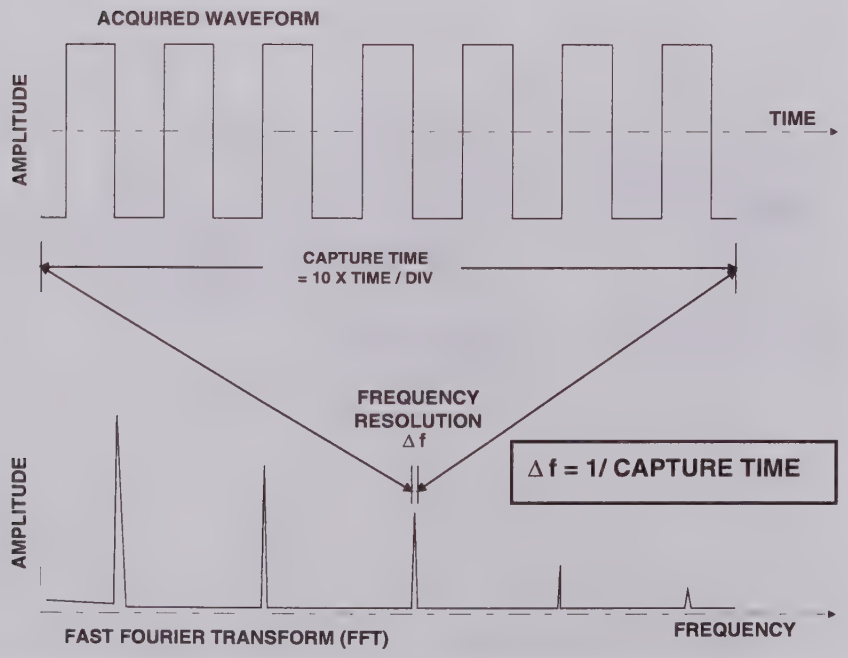
To select the source trace.

Setting Up FFT Span and Resolution

The FFT (Fast Fourier Transform) converts a time domain waveform into frequency domain spectra similar to those of an RF spectrum analyzer display. But unlike the analyzer, which has controls for span and resolution bandwidth, FFT span is determined by sampling rate, while resolution bandwidth is inversely proportional to record length.

Frequency Resolution Δf

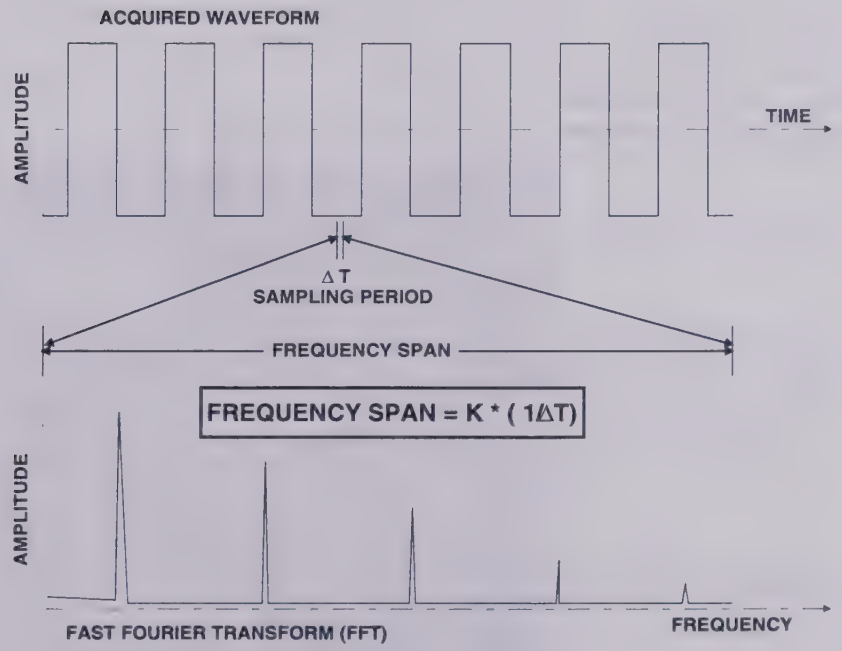
Correctly setting up an FFT starts with the frequency resolution, or Δf. This parameter is the spacing of samples in the frequency domain display. The Δf is set by inputting the time duration of the time domain signal to the FFT. If an acquisition channel (Channel 1, 2, 3 or 4) is the source, then the waveform duration is the capture time: the TIME/DIV setting multiplied by ten. *The relationship between capture time and frequency resolution is illustrated here.*



Similarly, if the source waveform is a zoom trace, the frequency resolution is the reciprocal of the displayed waveform's duration.

Setting the Span

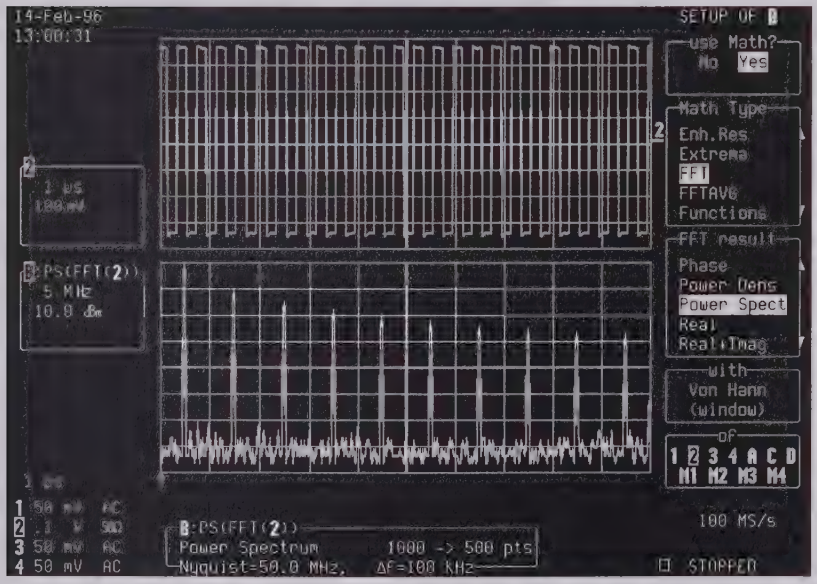
The frequency span of the FFT is called the Nyquist frequency and is related to the sampling frequency of the time domain waveform. If the math memory size, set using the "for Math use max points" menu (*see page 10–6*), is identical to the number of samples in the acquired waveform ("TIMEBASE" menus, *Chapter 7*), then the span will be half the sampling frequency. But if this "max points for math" number is less than the number of points, the waveform and in turn the FFT span will be decimated. *The relationship between the span of the FFT and the sampling rate (1/ΔT) is illustrated here.*



The constant K in the illustration includes the decimation factor described above, as well as automatic display scaling factors. This scaling is required to ensure that the FFT's horizontal display scale falls into a 1,2, or 5 factor.

In essence, the oscilloscope automatically adjusts the span (and hence the FFT transform size) to account for the user-entered "max points for math" and the display scaling. In some combinations of these factors it also adjusts the length of the displayed trace.

The user can determine the span from the Displayed Trace Label for the math trace containing the FFT. This will show the horizontal calibration in Hz/div. The span is also explicitly shown as the Nyquist frequency in the information field that appears at the bottom of the screen when the "MATH SETUP" menus are displayed, *as shown here.*



Essentially...

To achieve a desired FFT span, first make sure that the sampling rate is more than twice the span desired. Control the sampling rate using the TIME/DIV knob and set the acquisition memory length with the "TIMEBASE" menu. The sampling rate can be further adjusted by limiting the number of points in the "for Math use max points" menu.

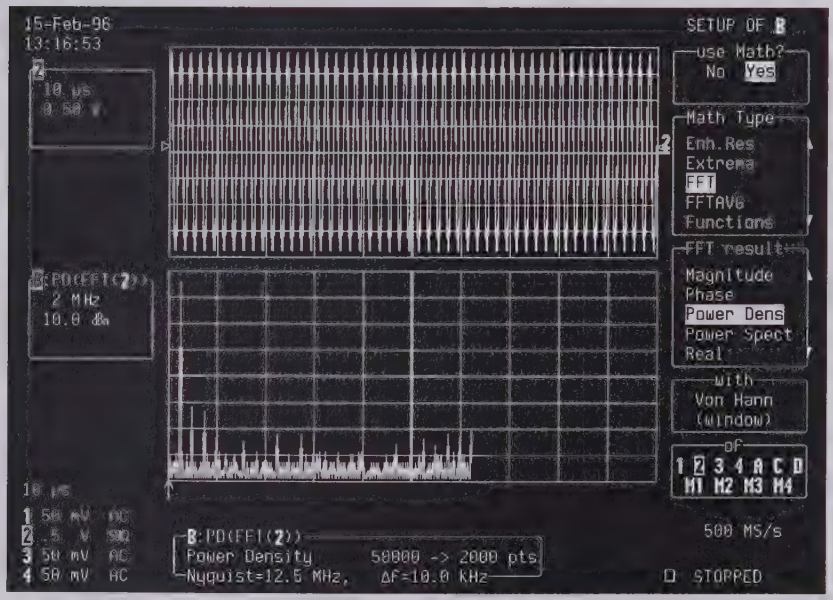
Example

Set up the oscilloscope for an FFT with a span of 10 MHz and a frequency resolution of 10 kHz, to analyze a continuous, periodic waveform.

1. The required frequency resolution demands a waveform duration (capture time) of 100 µs. Setting the TIME/DIV to 10 µs achieves the necessary Δf of 10 kHz.
2. To obtain the specified 10 MHz span, the effective sampling rate must be > 20 MS/s. On, say, an oscilloscope with a sampling rate of 500 MS/s, the 50 000-sample default memory length and a 10 µs TIME/DIV setting would be used to first give a 250 MHz span. Now, to obtain a 10 MHz span, the sampling rate must be reduced. This can be done in either of two ways:
   a) In "TIMEBASE": decreasing the number of samples by setting the "RECORD UP TO" menu to 2500 results in a sampling rate of 25 MS/s.
   b) With "ZOOM + MATH", by setting the "for Math use max points" menu to 2500. This would leave the sampling rate at 500 MS/s but decimate the waveform data before the FFT to reduce the effective sampling rate to 25 MS/s. This would in turn result in a span of 12.5 MHz, the closest achievable span to > 10 MHz.

***Note:** The technique described in b) above is to be preferred because it maintains a high input sampling rate and reduces the risk of aliasing the acquired data.*

This example, *illustrated below*, shows how the oscilloscope maintains the display factor. A sampling rate of 25 MS/s would result in a full scale range of 12.5 MHz or 1.25 MHz/Div. To maintain a display scale factor of 1,2, or 5 it decimates the acquired waveform and calculates the FFT using a 2000-point transform. This results in a scale factor of 2 MHz/Div. The display is truncated at 6.25 divisions to retain the original 12.5 MHz span.



Revealing the Complete Picture

A large, powerful display reveals the complete picture with advanced color management. Colors are used to give on-screen objects added depth and distinctness. And to make clear their links and relationships.

The display is intelligent as well as powerful. Color and intensity are managed automatically in real time by a powerful hardware-supported system that has the added advantage of very low software-overhead. Traces can be shown either opaquely or transparently. Overlapping objects — traces over traces or traces over grids — are always visible in transparent mode (*see page 11–3*).

Signals and their related data are color-associated (*page 11–2*). Each trace has its own dedicated color and persistence data maps. Backed by 1 MB of video memory, infinite and variable persistence displays are automatically color-matched to the parent trace. Related traces and text, screen icons, and parent–daughter zoom regions are also linked by color. As many as eight traces can be displayed at once, on as many grids (*page 11–12*). And the Full Screen function uses the entire screen area to display traces (*page 11–10).*

There are six pre-set color schemes, and four personal color palettes can be custom-created by the user (*page 11–20*), drawing on more than 40 different colors (*page 11–4*).

The unique Analog Persistence feature (*see page 11–5*) offers advantages of an analog display in a digital oscilloscope. Using the brightness level of a single color to denote relative signal intensities, it is the scope's standard Persistence mode. Also available is Color-Graded Persistence (*page 11–15*) which uses. a color spectrum from red through violet to map signal intensity. Both persistence modes are infinite or variable with decay over time. They can be chosen from the DISPLAY SETUP menus (*see descriptions starting page 11–7).*

How On-Screen Objects are Shown and Seen

Protean in its ability to transform on-screen objects, the Advanced Color Management System ensures that both the objects and the relationships between them are always clearly visible — even when the objects overlap. Objects such as:

- **Waveforms, including envelopes and intensified regions**
- **Grids**
- **Parameter Measurements**
- **Cursors**
- **Status Information.**

Background Color

The color management of the background plays an important role in bringing out the links and differences between displayed objects. The choice of background colors has been expressly limited to the darker colors so that displayed objects are more clearly defined and recognizable. The colors of objects that are too close in hue to the chosen background color are automatically changed so that these objects always stand out from the background.

Trace–Color Association

The base color of a trace is specified for each color scheme. However, the expanded or zoomed sections of a trace can be given their own colors, so that a single trace may have a number of colors at once: its principal color plus those of a number of expanded regions.

Text–Color Association

Trace-related text includes pieces of on-screen information that describe measurement parameters, cursors, triggers, waveforms and channels. A standard text color covering all on-screen text exists in the pre-set color schemes, or can be chosen by the user for custom palettes. Waveform source descriptions, including parameter string, acquisition set-up, status screen and trigger information, will be in the trace color, even when contained in a text string (the remainder of which will be in the text color). Waveform descriptor boxes — trace labels — and the information they contain always take the color of their respective trace.

Other Color Links

Most menus are displayed in the text color only. The active trigger-edge or -condition shows source-related information in the trace color, as does the trigger icon. But the titles of Channel Coupling menus are trace-colored, and Math Set-Up menu sources have their own color.

Overlap Management

Selection of the "**Opaque**" presentation of overlapping waveforms places one on top of another in normal, non-transparent layers. The order in which traces appear can be determined by the operator (*see below*).

However, when "**Transparent**" is chosen and overlap mixing used, those areas of the waveforms that overlap will automatically change color, chameleon-like, while grid intensity remains constant. But *unlike* the chameleon's transformation, this contrast enhancement marks the overlapping regions so that they stand out. Overlap-managed traces remain always distinct in relation to other displayed objects and the background.

Display Order

This is a further mechanism for recognizing displayed objects, which automatically overlays them on the screen in sequence.

When dealing with traces of the same type, the foremost trace is described in the top trace label at left-of-screen, the next in the second-from-top trace label, and so-on in descending order towards the background and the bottom of the screen, respectively. This order can be changed using the CHANNELS TRACE ON/OFF buttons.

When different types of traces are displayed, placed by default in ascending order from the grid at the bottom are: envelope traces, persistence traces, normal traces and — last and foremost on the screen — cursors. This sequence can also be customized.

For extrema waveforms the sequence is followed by a repeated scanning of normal traces, ensuring they are always viewed within extremas, regardless of display order. Thus each trace is visible within its envelope, persistence or Pass/Fail mask, grid lines never hide trace features, and cursors are always visible.

Neutral Highlighting

Any color can be chosen as "neutral" in the four user color schemes, and a neutral color is designated by default in each of the six pre-set schemes. When the "Measure Gate" function is switched on, this designated neutral color automatically relegates display objects of limited interest — the area *outside* the measurement-gate region

(*see page 11–21*) — thus indirectly highlighting the area of greatest interest, *inside* the gated region.

Pass/Fail Testing

When overlap mixing is used for Pass/Fail mask testing, together with a well-selected color scheme — default scheme "1", for example — and the measurement-gate highlighting described above, the trace area outside the mask is placed in clear relief.

THE COLORS			
White	Dark Cyan	Ocean Spray	Fuchsia
Cyan	Cream	Ice Blue	Raspberry
Yellow	Sand	Pastel Blue	Neon Pink
Green	Amber	Pale Blue	Pale Pink
Magenta	Olive	Sky Blue	Pink
Blue	Light Green	Royal Blue	Vermilion
Red	Jade	Deep Blue	Orange
Light Gray	Lime Green	Navy	Cerise
Gray	Apple Green	Plum	Khaki
Slate Gray	Emerald Green	Purple	Brown
Charcoal Gray	Grass Green	Amethyst	Black

Analog Persistence

Analog Persistence provides an analog view of signals while maintaining digital data-manipulation flexibility.

Press

or use the "DISPLAY SETUP" "Persistence" menu (*see page 11–14*), whose menu button toggles with it, to activate the oscilloscope's persistence functions.

Why Analog Persistence?

With traditional analog instruments, data manipulation and the direct comparison of acquisitions is practically impossible. And statistical analysis is also difficult to perform. Nevertheless, analog does have certain advantages. Because there is no analog–to–digital conversion, the speed of the analog scope is limited only by the bandwidth of its electronics: signals are monitored almost continuously. The standard DSO (Digital Storage Oscilloscope) must capture signals across the time period allowed by the size of its acquisition memory, then process and display their representation. The time needed to process the previous acquisition limits DSO speed.

LeCroy's unique Analog Persistence offers the advantages of analog display in a leading-edge DSO. The display looks like an analog display and is fast, too. But it provides the data manipulation, flexibility and statistical analysis capabilities only found in a digital instrument.

How it Works

DSOs with Analog Persistence are fast because data-accumulation is decoupled from display. New data is both accumulated and displayed more quickly. Moreover, the persistence is variable. The display is generated by repeatedly sampling amplitudes of events over time and accumulating the sampled data into three-dimensional display maps. These maps are rendered to the screen to create an analog-style display. User-definable persistence duration can be used to view on the displayed image how the maps evolve proportionally over time. Statistical integrity is preserved because the duration, or decay, is proportional to the persistence population for each amplitude- or time-combination in the data.

In addition, Analog Persistence provides user-definable, post-acquisition saturation control of the maps, allowing detail to be easily drawn out of the display.

Shades of Persistence

When Analog Persistence is selected, each channel and its associated persistence data map are assigned a single color (whereas the related Color-Graded persistence function renders the maps in different colors in the red–to–violet spectrum). As a persistence data map is rendered to the screen, different shades of its color are assigned to the population ranges between a minimum and a maximum population. The maximum population automatically receives the brightest shade, the zero or smallest population the darkest shade or the background color, and the population ranges between zero and the maximum population the shades in between these.

The information in the lower populations, or down at the noise level (random transients rather than dominant signals) can often be of greater interest than the rest. The distribution of data is here highlighted by shades and color so that it may more easily be examined in detail.

The user can select a saturation level or population specified as a percentage of the maximum population. All populations above the saturation population are then assigned the brightest shade: that is, saturated. At the same time, all populations below the saturation level are assigned the remaining shades from brightest down to darkest.

Data populations and their displayed shades are dynamically updated as data from new acquisitions are accumulated.

Setting Up the Display

Press

to access the DISPLAY SETUP menus (*see page 11–13)* and to select from:

- **"Standard" or "XY" mode and grids**
- **Persistence**
- **Dot Join**
- **"Single" (1), "Dual" (2), "Quad" (4) or "Octal" (8) grids**
- **Display and grid intensities**
- **"More Display Setup" menus.**

Standard or XY Display?

Standard display (*menus page 11–13*) allows presentation of source waveforms versus time (or versus frequency for FFTs).

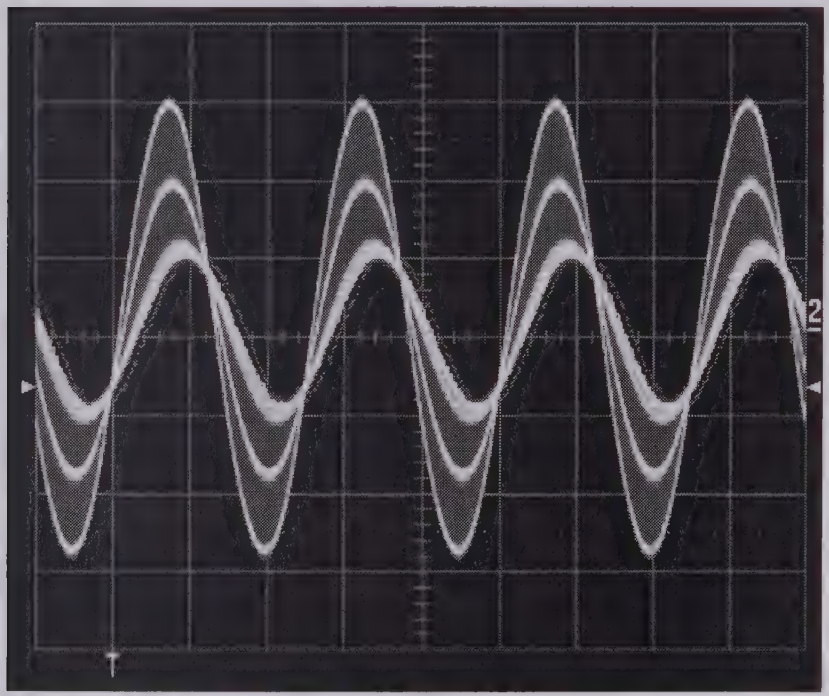
XY display (*menus page 11–16)* compares and contrasts one source waveform with another, and is used when selected traces have the same time or frequency span (time/div) and horizontal unit (in seconds or Hertz). XY is automatically generated as soon as two compatible traces are selected. If incompatible traces are selected, a warning message is displayed at the top of the screen. And if compatible traces are not matched in time, their XY diagram will be displayed showing the shifting in time or in frequency between them. (The ΔT or Δf indicator is displayed in the Displayed Trace Label at left-of-screen.)

Persistence

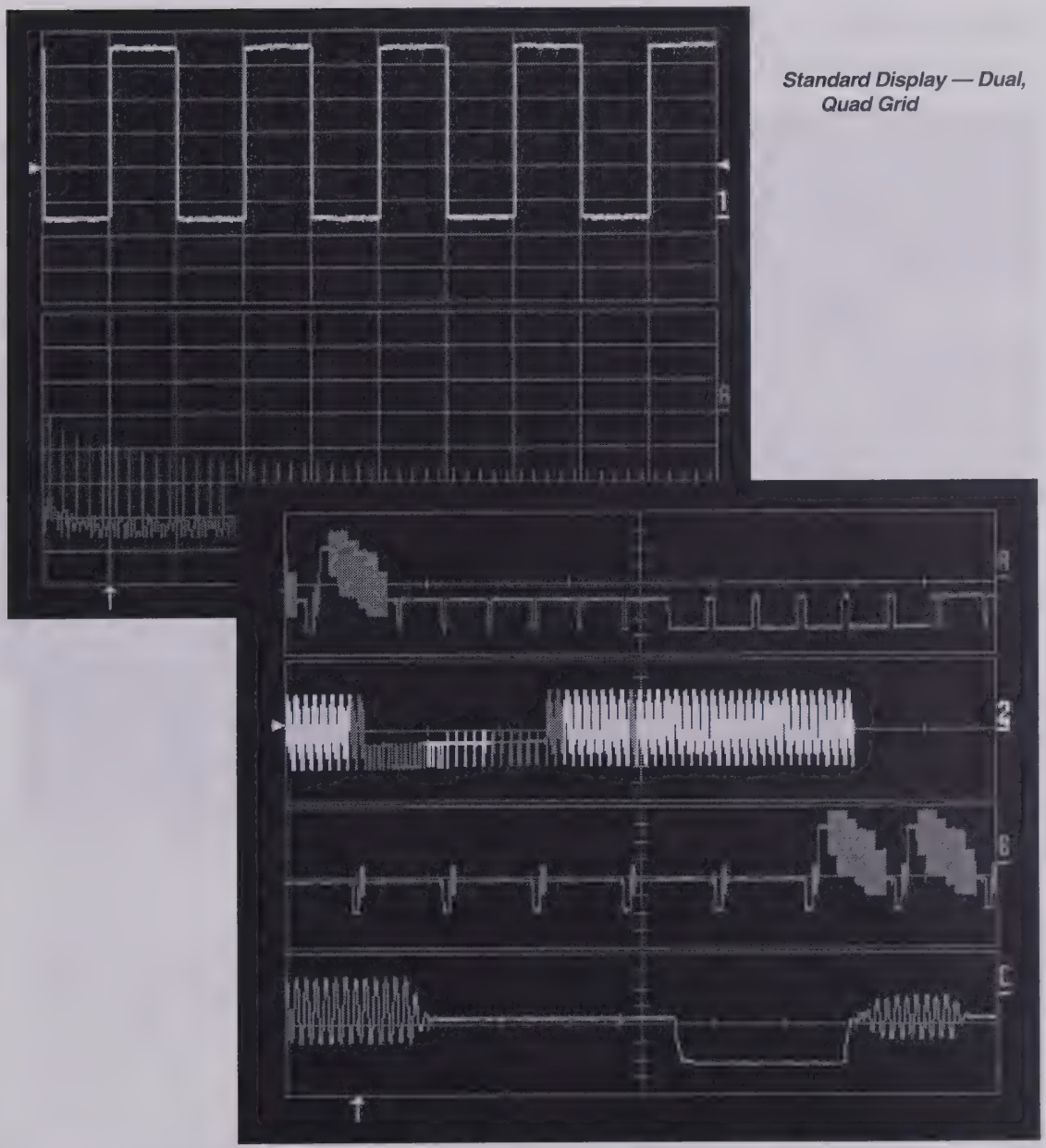
In Persistence Mode, the oscilloscope can display points so that they accumulate on-screen over many acquisitions. Both Analog and Color-Graded Persistence can be used in either Standard or XY display. Eye diagrams and constellation displays can be made using Persistence, and the most recent sweep can be displayed as a "vector" trace over the Persistence display. Persistence is activated by selection of the "DISPLAY SETUP" "Persistence" menu (*11–14*).

Which Grid?

Grid styles, examples of which are shown on the following pages, offer a variety of ways to view one or more traces in either Standard or XY display. As many as eight traces and grids can be displayed in Standard mode using the "Octal" grid selection (*see page 11–12*). When Parameters are used, the special parameter-style grid comes automatically into play. Grid graticules are internally generated, so that the intensity of grids, as well as of waveforms and text, can be adjusted to the desired intensity. Grids can also be blended with displayed traces.

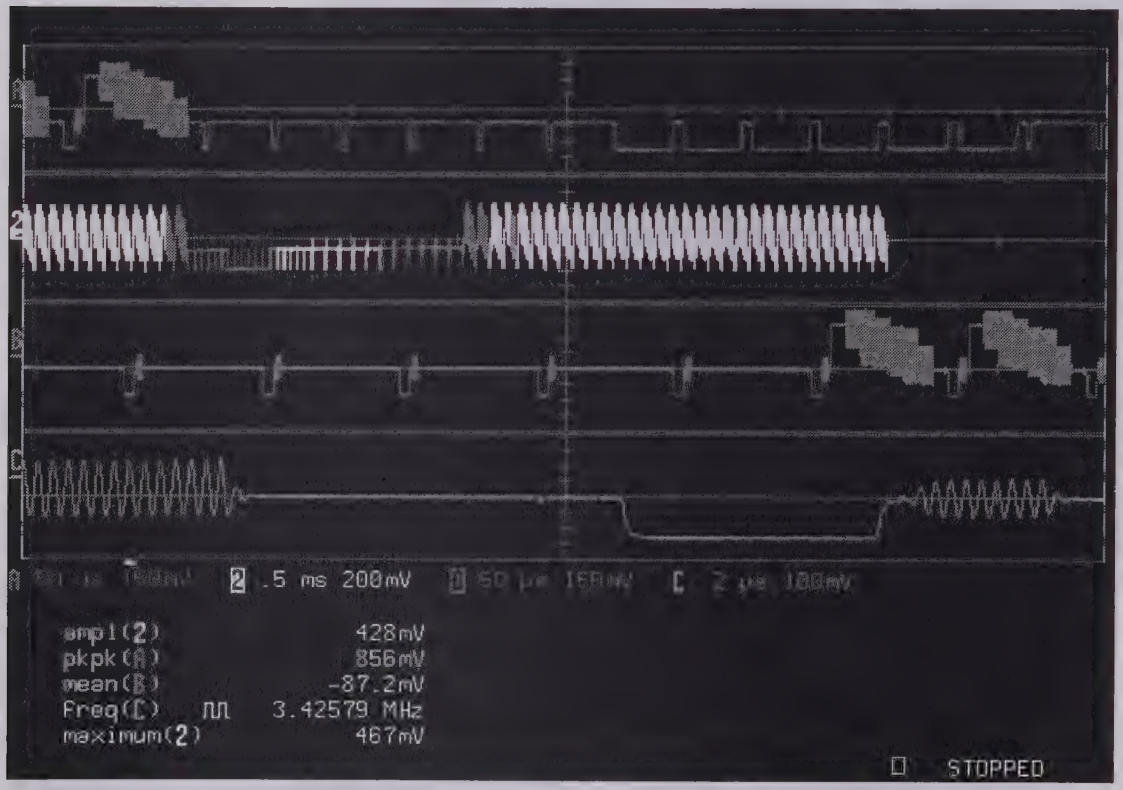


Standard Display — Single Grid



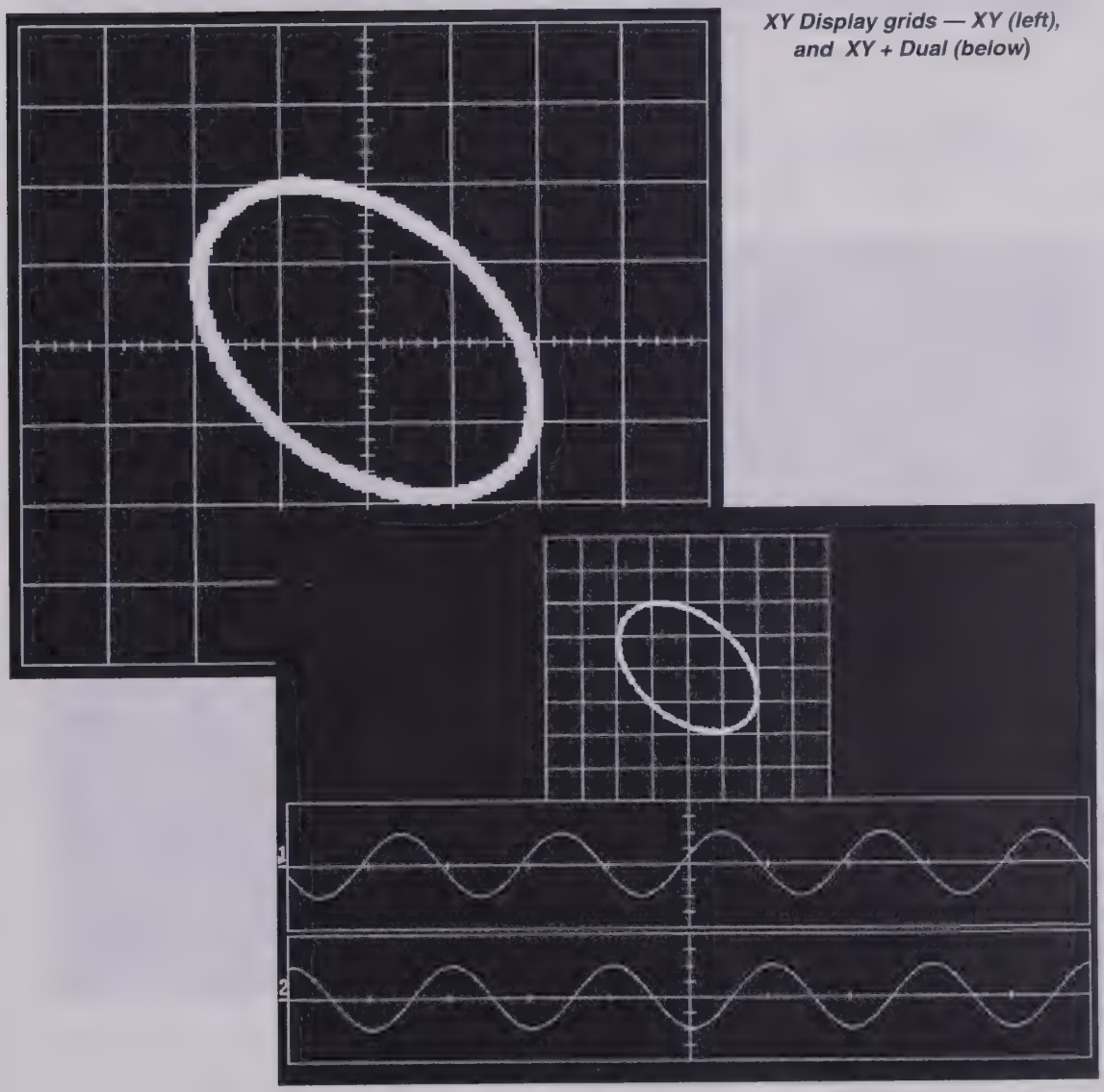
Standard Display — Dual, Quad Grid

Parameter Display — Quad Grid — Full-Screen Mode: trace information normally contained in the trace labels is arranged beneath the grid in Full Screen.



FULL SCREEN

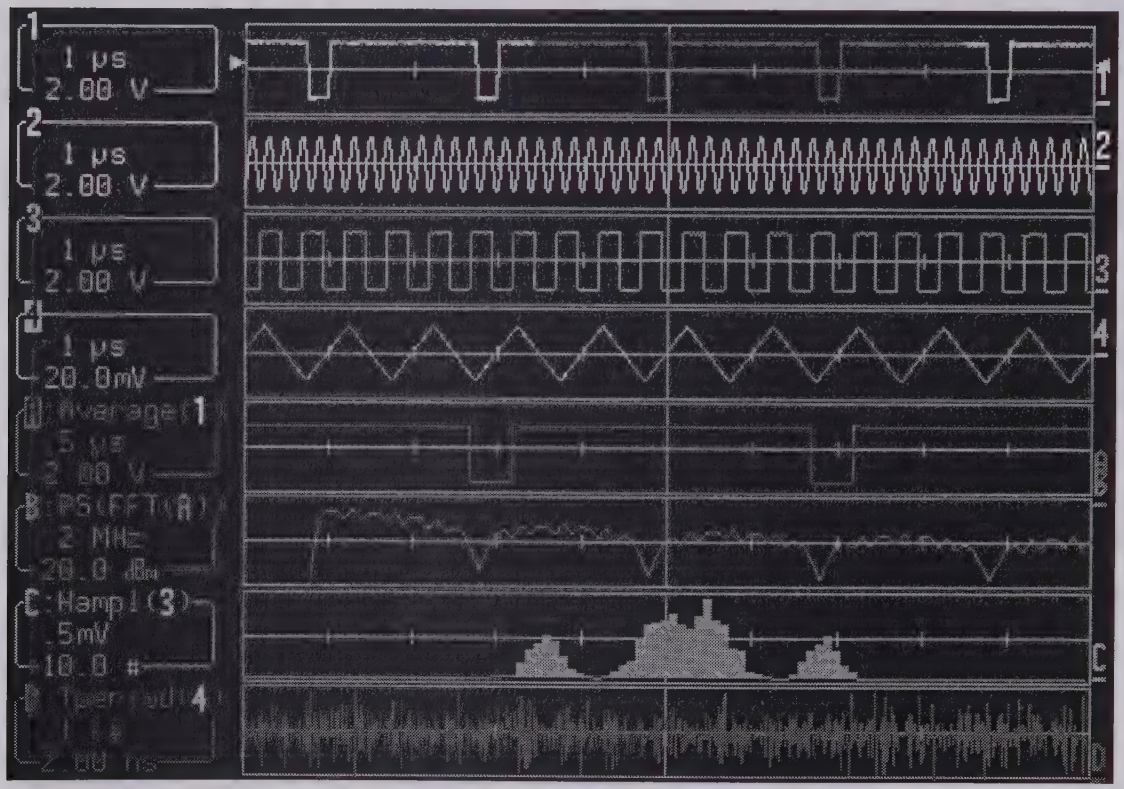
Pressing expands the grid display to fill the entire screen. Pressing this button again returns the grid to its normal size. Pressing RETURN in Full Screen mode removes the menus from view so that waveforms can be viewed in their entirety. These reappear when one or other of the Menu-entry buttons is pressed.



XY Display grids — XY (left), and XY + Dual (below)

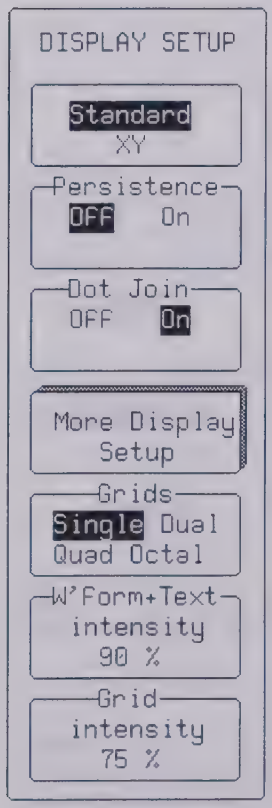
Displaying Multiple Traces

As many as eight traces can be displayed at once, with their respective trace labels and any combination of math, zoom and memories. When "Octal" is selected from the "Standard" "Grids" menu (*see next page*), eight separate grids are made available. When more than four traces are displayed in Single-, Dual- or Quad-grid style, the accompanying trace labels become smaller so that as many as eight labels can be shown. However, in Octal, the labels are always smaller.



Octal-style grid, with eight displayed traces and their labels.

DISPLAY SETUP — Standard



With "**Standard**" selected, these menus become accessible.

Persistence

For activating Persistence (*see next menu*). Coupled to the ANALOG PERSIST button.

Dot Join

To select Dot Join "ON" — connecting the sample points with a line segment — or "OFF", when only the sample points are displayed when there are less than 400 points on the screen.

More Display Setup

For accessing the "MORE DISPLAY" menus (*11–20*).

Grids

For selecting the number of grids.

W'form + Text intensity

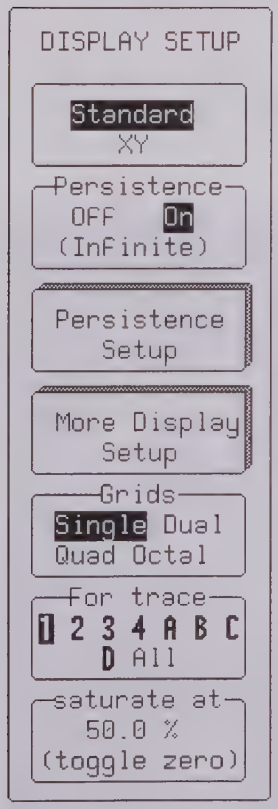
Adjusts the screen intensity for the waveform and associated text, using the attributed menu knob.

Grid

Adjusts the screen intensity of the grid, using the attributed menu knob.

***Note:** If "W'form + Text intensity" is turned down to 0 %, the waveform and text disappear! Press the DISPLAY button to return automatically to 90 % intensity. If "Grid" is turned down to 0 %, press the "Grid intensity" menu button to return this intensity to 75 %.*

DISPLAY SETUP — Standard — Persistence "On"



With both "**Standard**" and "Persistence" "**On**" selected in the first menu, these menus appear:

Persistence

For activating Persistence. When "**On**", this can be cleared and reset by pressing the CLEAR SWEEPS button or by changing any acquisition condition or waveform processing condition. This menu button toggles with the ANALOG PERSIST button.

Persistence Setup

To access the "PERSISTENCE" menus (*see next page*)

More Display Setup

For accessing the "MORE DISPLAY" menus (*11–20*).

Grids

For selecting the number of grids.

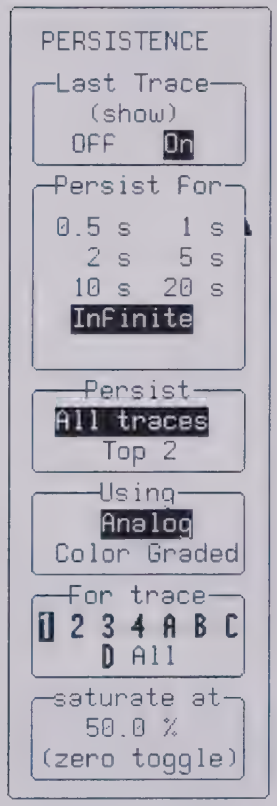
For trace

To select any or all of the displayed traces — "**On**" (*top menu*) — for saturation adjustment.

saturate at

For selecting the percentage of saturation. A level of 100% corresponds to the color spectrum being spread across the entire depth of the persistence data map. At lower values, the spectrum will saturate (brightest color or shade) at the specified percentage value. Lowering the percentage causes the pixels to be saturated at a lower data intensity, and allows rarely-hit pixels that are not seen at higher percentages to become visible.

PERSISTENCE



These menus appear when "Persistence Setup" is selected from "DISPLAY SETUP".

Last Trace

To show — when "**On**" — the last acquired trace.

Persist for

For selecting the persistence duration, in seconds.

The number of sweeps accumulated — up to 1 million — is displayed below the grid.

Persist

To select whether persistence is applied to all or to the top two traces.

Using

To select the Persistence Mode. With "**Analog**" selected, each persistence data map is rendered to the screen in various intensities of the trace color. While with "**Color Graded**", all persistence data maps are rendered in a red–to–violet spectrum.

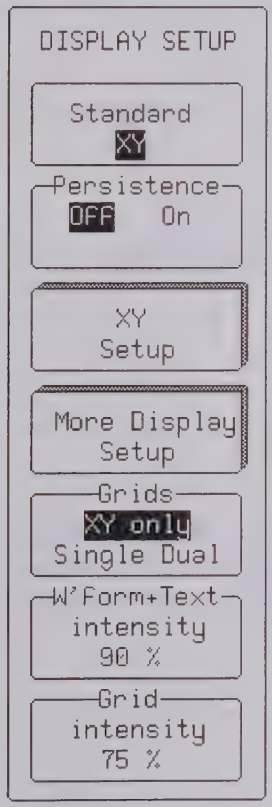
For trace

To select any or all of the displayed traces — "**On**" (*top menu*) — for saturation adjustment.

saturate at

For selecting the percentage of saturation. A level of 100% corresponds to the color spectrum being spread across the entire depth of the persistence data map. At lower values, the spectrum will saturate (brightest color or shade) at the specified percentage value. Lowering the percentage causes the pixels to be saturated at a lower data intensity, and allows rarely-hit pixels that are not seen at higher percentages to become visible.

DISPLAY SETUP — XY When "XY" is selected in the first menu, these other menus appear.



Persistence

For activating Persistence.

XY Setup

For accessing "XY SETUP" (*see next page*).

More Display Setup

For accessing the "MORE DISPLAY" menus.

Grids

For selecting the grid style.

W'form + Text intensity

Adjusts the screen intensity for the waveform and associated text, using the attributed menu knob.

Grid intensity

Adjusts the screen intensity of the grid, using the attributed menu knob.

***Note:** If "W'form + Text intensity" is turned down to 0 %, the waveform and text disappear! Press the DISPLAY button to return automatically to 90 % intensity. If "Grid" is turned down to 0 %, press the "Grid intensity" menu button to return this intensity to 75 %.*

XY SETUP

When the corresponding menu button for "XY Setup" is pressed and when "Persistence" is "OFF", these menus appear:

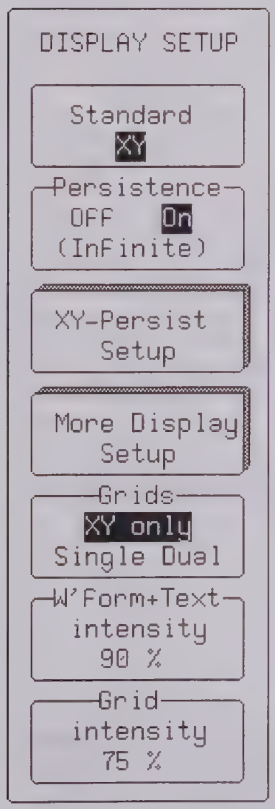
Using

To select "**Analog**" or "**Color Graded**" persistence *for a single sweep.*

saturate at

For selecting the percentage of saturation. At lower values, the spectrum will saturate (brightest color or shade) at the specified percentage value. Lowering the percentage causes the pixels to be saturated at a lower data intensity, and allows rarely-hit pixels that are not seen at higher percentages to become visible.

DISPLAY SETUP — XY — Persistence "On"



When "**XY**" is selected in the first menu and Persistence activated, these menus appear:

Persistence

To turn Persistence "**On**".

XY-Persist Setup

For accessing "XY SETUP" using Persistence (*see next page*).

More Display Setup

For accessing the "MORE DISPLAY" menus.

Grids

For selecting the grid style.

W'form + Text intensity

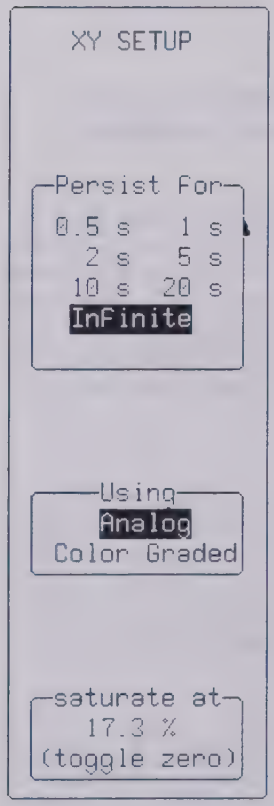
Adjusts the screen intensity for the waveform and associated text, using the attributed menu knob.

Grid intensity

Adjusts the screen intensity of the grid, using the attributed menu knob.

***Note:** If "W'form + Text intensity" is turned down to 0 %, the waveform and text disappear! Press the DISPLAY button to return automatically to 90 % intensity. If "Grid" is turned down to 0 %, press the "Grid intensity" menu button to return this intensity to 75 %.*

XY SETUP — XY–Persist Setup



When the corresponding menu button for "XY–Persist Setup" is pressed, these menus appear:

Persist for

For selecting the persistence duration, in seconds. The number of sweeps accumulated — up to 1 million — is displayed below the grid.

Using

To select "**Analog**" or "**Color Graded**" Persistence.

saturate at

For selecting the percentage of saturation. A level of 100% corresponds to the color spectrum being spread across the entire depth of the persistence data map. At lower values, the spectrum will saturate (brightest color or shade) at the specified percentage value. Lowering the percentage causes the pixels to be saturated at a lower data intensity, and allows rarely-hit pixels that are not seen at higher percentages to become visible.

Controlling Color

MORE DISPLAY

Press [ ] beside the "More Display Setup" menu to gain direct access to these menus and their selections.

Screen Saver Setup

For accessing the Screen Saver controls. When activated, the built-in screen saver will cut in 10 minutes after the last use of a front-panel control. This is a complete display shut-down of the internal screen, more of an "Energy-Saver", giving lower power dissipation and system noise. However, the external monitor does remain active during the display shut-down. The front-panel LED light indicates that the scope is in a screen-saving, STANDBY, state. Press any front-panel control to restore the screen.

Color Scheme

To select from six pre-set ("**1**", "**2**", "**3**", "**4**", "**5**" or "**6**"), or four user ("**U1**", "**U2**", "**U3**" or "**U4**"), color schemes. When a user-custom scheme is chosen, "CHANGE COLORS" is added to the list of menus, enabling the creation of personal color palettes and the assigning of colors to traces, grids, or any other displayed on-screen object or element (*see black panel, facing page*). It also allows pre-set schemes to be copied for easier customizing.

CHANGE COLORS

This menu appears when one of the four custom color schemes is selected from the "Color Scheme" menu (*above*). It accesses the "CHANGE COLORS" secondary menu (*11–22*).

Trace color

For selecting either "**Opaque**" or "**Transparent**". When the latter is chosen, waveform objects are always visible and their overlapping regions automatically distinguished by a new and unique color. When dealing with traces of the same type, the foremost trace is described in the top trace label at left-of-screen, the second-foremost in the second-from-top trace label, and so-on in descending order towards the background and the bottom of the screen, respectively. This order can be changed using the

CHANNELS TRACE ON/OFF buttons. *For a variety of trace types, the order follows that described on page 11–3.*

Measure Gate

To turn "**On**" the Measure Gate function, which highlights the gated parameter region by making the trace in the region *outside* the parameter a neutral color.

Data Points

To show the data (sample) points in "**Normal**" or "**Bold**" view.

Choosing Colors

The pre-set ("1–6") and user-selected custom color schemes ("U1–4") give a particular color to each displayed object. Colors are assigned to the custom palettes using the "CHANGE COLORS" "Change" menu (see next page) for:

Background: **The background color of entire display area.**

Trace 1...4: **The color assigned to traces displaying Channel 1, 2, 3, or 4.**

Trace A...D: **The color assigned to Trace A, B, C, or D.**

Grid: **The default color of the grid.**

Text: **The color assigned to menus, acquisition-status and non-single source measurements.**

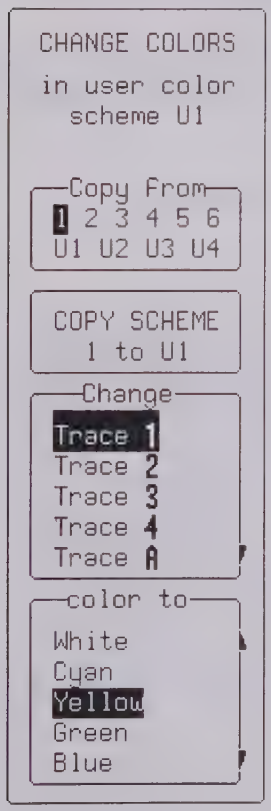
Cursors: **The color assigned to cursors.**

Warnings: **The color assigned to error and warning messages.**

Neutral: **The color designated as neutral (can be any color in user palettes), used in 'Measure-Gate' region highlighting.**

Overlays: **The color assigned to the menus overlaid on the grid when in Full Screen mode.**

CHANGE COLORS — enables colors to be assigned to displayed objects and the user-customizing of color schemes.



Copy from

For copying one of the six pre-set color schemes ("**1**", "**2**", "**3**", "**4**", "**5**" or "**6**") to a user color scheme ("**U1**", "**U2**", "**U3**" or "**U4**"), or one user scheme to another. Copying makes customizing easier by forming the basis of a personalized palette that can then be developed.

COPY SCHEME

For executing the copying of the pre-set scheme to the personal color palette.

Change

To select a displayed object for color assignment (*see panel, previous page for details*).

color to

For selecting the color to be assigned to the chosen object.

Printing, Mass Storage and Other Utilities

UTILITIES

Press

to access the primary menus for:

- **Hardcopy settings**
- **Time and date settings for the real-time clock**
- **GPIB and RS-232-C settings**
- **Mass storage utilities (including copy and format and delete files)**
- **Special modes of operation (including offset behavior, sequence time-out, cursor units, autocalibration and Remote Control Assistant)**
- **Signal function at the CAL BNC connector (magnitude, frequency, shape, trigger out, pass/fail use).**

Hardcopy Setup (*see page 12–2*)

To access secondary menu for viewing, changing printer settings.

Time/Date Setup (*page 12–4*)

To access secondary menu for adjusting the real-time clock displayed in the upper left-hand corner of the screen.

GPIB/RS232 Setup (*page 12–5*)

To access secondary menu for viewing, changing interface settings.

Mass Storage Utilities (*page 12–10*)

For accessing the "Mass Storage UTILITIES" menus.

Special Modes (*page 12–19*)

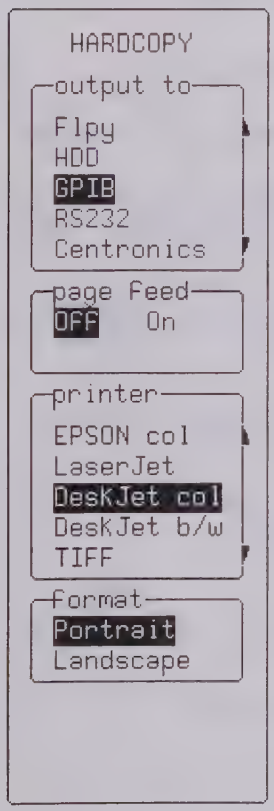
For accessing the "Special Modes" menus.

CAL BNC Setup (*page 12–23*)

For accessing the "CAL BNC" menus.

Hardcopy Setup

HARDCOPY



When "Hardcopy Setup" is selected from "UTILITIES" these menus appear:

output to

To select the device to which the instrument is to output. This menu shows the options installed in the instrument. The device can be either a port — GPIB, RS232 or Centronics — to which a printer is connected, a storage unit such as Floppy or portable hard disk (HDD), or the internal printer. If a port, the "GPIB & RS232" menu should be checked to ensure settings are correct. File names are assigned automatically when copying to storage units.

page feed

For starting ("**On**") a new page each time SCREEN DUMP is pressed.

Press

to make a copy of the screen display.

printer

To select the type of printer (*see Appendix A*), plotter (HP 7470, HP 7550 only), or screen file protocols ("TIFF", "BMP", "HPGL") using the corresponding menu buttons or knob.

format

For choosing either "Portrait" or "Landscape" formats (becomes available depending on "printer" choice).

Background (*not shown*)

This menu becomes available when "TIFF color", "BMP color" or "BMP compr" is chosen. For giving either a "Black" or "White" background to the hardcopy reproduction.

plot size (*not shown*)

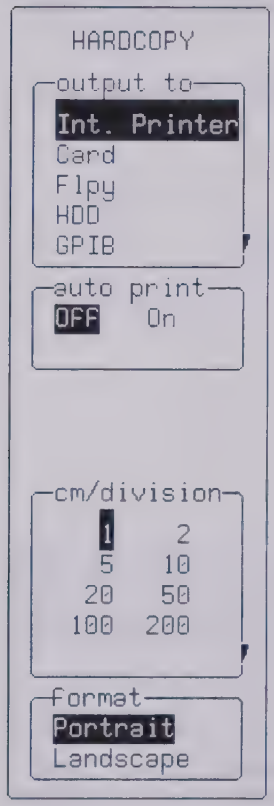
This menu becomes available only when a plotter is selected — for choosing the desired size: A4 (11" × 8.5") or A5 (8.5" × 5.5").

pen number (*not shown*)

This menu becomes available only when a plotter is selected — for choosing the number of pens installed (the instrument assumes the pens are loaded consecutively in the lower slots).

HARDCOPY — Internal Printer

OPTIONAL ON MOST MODELS



output to

To select the device to which the instrument is to output: in this case, the optional "**Int. Printer**". This menu shows the options installed in the instrument. The device can be either a port — GPIB, RS232 or Centronics — to which a printer is connected, a storage unit such as Floppy or portable hard disk (HDD), or the internal printer. If a port, the "GPIB & RS232" menu should be checked to ensure settings are correct. File names are assigned automatically when copying to storage units.

auto print

For generating ("**On**") a hard copy of the screen and send to the internal printer after every acquisition.

cm/division

For selecting the expansion factor.

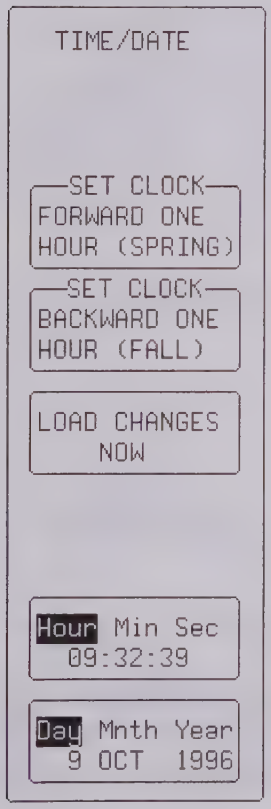
format

For choosing either "Portrait" or "Landscape" formats.

***Note:** A "persistence" trace cannot be expanded, nor do cursors show on an expanded printout.*

Time/Date Setup

TIME/DATE



When "Time Date Setup" is selected from "UTILITIES" these menus appear:

SET CLOCK FORWARD ONE HOUR

For changing to summer time.

SET CLOCK BACKWARD ONE HOUR

For changing back to standard time.

LOAD CHANGES NOW

To activate the changes made with the "Hour Min Sec" and "Day Mnth Year" buttons and knobs (*see below*).

Hour/Min/Sec

Using the corresponding menu button, for toggling between "**Hour**", "**Min**"utes, and "**Sec**"onds, and the associated menu knob to adjust the value.

Day/Mnth/Year

Using the corresponding menu button, for toggling between "**Day**", "**Mnth**", and "**Year**", and the associated menu knob to adjust the corresponding value.

GPIB/RS232 Setup

When "GPIB/RS232 Setup" is selected from "UTILITIES" the RS-232-C port on the rear panel can be used for remote operation of the oscilloscope, and for direct interfacing to a hard-copy device for copying of displayed waveforms and other screen data. *See the illustration on the next page for RS-232 printer cabling, and "Data to PC" in the* Hands-On Guide *for computer nine-pin communication cabling for PC.*

A printer unit whose connected to the scope by RS-232-C port can be controlled from a host computer using the scope's GPIB port. The oscilloscope's built-in drivers also allow hard copies to be made without an external computer.

The Remote Control Assistant feature allows automatic monitoring and detection of errors during remote control operation (*see page 12–20*).

RS-232-C Connector Pin Assignments

DB9 Pin No.	Line Name	Description
3	T × D	Transmitted Data (from the oscilloscope).
2	R × D	Received Data (to the oscilloscope).
7	RTS	Request To Send (from the oscilloscope). If the software Xon/Xoff handshake is selected, it is always TRUE. Otherwise (hardware handshake) it is TRUE when the oscilloscope is able to receive characters and FALSE when the oscilloscope is unable to receive characters.
8	CTS	Clear To Send (to the oscilloscope). When TRUE, the oscilloscope can transmit; when FALSE, transmission stops. It is used for the oscilloscope output hardware handshake.
4	DTR	Data Terminal Ready (from the oscilloscope). Always TRUE.
5	SIG GND	Signal Ground

Corresponds to a DTE (Data Terminal Equipment) Configuration

GPIB & RS232

When "GPIB/RS232 Setup" is selected from "UTILITIES" these menus appear:

Remote Control from

For selecting the port for remote control.

RS232 Mode

To select "**7–bit**" or "**8–bit**" mode for RS-232 communication. When "**RS-232**" is selected, the GPIB interface is in "Talk Only" mode. Any change becomes effective immediately.

Parity

To select the "**odd**" or "**even**" parity, or "**none**", for RS-232 communication.

Stop bits

For selecting the number of stop bits for RS-232 communication.

Baud Rate

To set the Baud Rate for RS-232 communication using the attributed menu knob.

GPIB Device (Address)

To choose the appropriate GPIB address.

RS-232 cabling: can be used in almost very case (for computer cabling see "Transferring Data to PC" in the "Hands-On Guide").

Mass Storage Utilities

When "Mass Storage Utilities" is selected from "UTILITIES" the "MASS STORAGE" menu group appears (*12–10*) to give access to the mass-storage file system controls. The system supports storage and retrieval of data files to and from memory cards, floppy disks and removable hard disk (HDD) media.

Memory Card Format

The Memory Card structure, based on the PCMCIA II / JEIDA 4.0 standard, and as found in any DOS floppy or hard disk, consists of a DOS partition containing files. The oscilloscope formats the card in segmented contiguous sectors, each of 512 bytes. The scope does *not* support error-detection algorithms such as CRCs or checksum inserted between the sectors, and when this is done the instrument may only be able to read, but not write, the card.

Floppy Disk Format

The floppy supports DOS 1.44 MB and 720 kB formats.

Hard Disk (HDD) Format

The removable hard disk structure is based on the PCMCIA III / JEIDA 4.0 standard. The media is arranged as a DOS partition containing files as in any DOS floppy or hard disk.

The HDD format uses 512 bytes per sector and four sectors per cluster. One cluster is the minimum file size: any files smaller than 2048 bytes in size will still use one cluster's allocation of 2048 bytes of disk space.

Subdirectories

All files are written to and read from the media from the current working directory. The default name of the working directory is LECROY_1.DIR. This directory is automatically created when the media is formatted. If the media is formatted elsewhere -- for instance on a PC — the directory will be created the first time a file is stored to the memory card, floppy disk or removable hard disk.

The working directory can be changed to any valid DOS directory name, using the file-name preferences menu. All working directories are created as sub-directories from the root directory.

The maximum number of files allowed in any one directory is 2400.

File-naming Conventions

As in MS-DOS, the file name can take up to eight characters followed by an extension of three characters. A file is treated as:

- Panel setup if its extension is PNL
- Waveform if its extension is a three-digit number
- Waveform template if its extension is TPL
- Hardcopy if its extension is TIF, BMP, or PRT.
- HPGL if its extension is PLT. *See also key to terms, below.*

The instrument has a pre-defined naming convention for the eight-character file names and directory names, and these default names can be customized, as shown in this table. If the new file being stored bears the same name as an existing file on the same storage medium, the old file will be deleted.

Type	Default Name	Customized Name
Manually stored waveform files	Stt.nnn	xxxxxxxx.nnn
Automatically stored waveform files	Att.nnn	xxxxxxxx.nnn
Panel files	Pnnn.PNL	xxxxxnnn.PNL
Hardcopy files	Dnnn.TIF Dnnn.BMP Dnnn.PRT Dnnn.PLT	xxxxxnnn.TIF xxxxxnnn.BMP xxxxxnnn.PRT xxxxxnnn.PLT
Template files	LECROYvv.TPL	Cannot be changed
Directory name	LECROY_1.DIR	xxxxxxxx
Spreadsheet	Sttnnn.TXT	xxxxxnnn.TXT
Matlab	Sttnnn.DAT	xxxxxnnn.DAT
Mathcad	Sttnnn.PRN	xxxxxnnn.PRN

Key to Terms

x	*any legal DOS file-name character*	w	*the template version number: for example, for a version 2.2, the template is saved as LECROY22.TPL*
tt	*the trace name of C1, C2, C3, C4, TA, TB, TC, TD*	TIF BMP	*hardcopy graphic image files*
nnn	*a 3-digit decimal sequence number starting at 001 that is automatically assigned*	PRT	*hardcopy printer files.*
PLT	*HPGL plotter/vectorial files*		

Auto-Store Waveform File Naming

The default notation for waveform files is Stt.nnn for manually stored files and Att.nnn for automatically stored files, the characters S and A representing the two storage methods, respectively.

When automatically generating a file name, the system uses the assigned name plus a three-digit sequence number. If the assigned waveform name is already in the default 'Stt' form — such as SC1, STB — the name will be modified to the 'Att' form: AC1, ATB and so on. All other user-assigned names remain as entered.

More on Auto-Stored Files

If "**Fill**" is selected and default names are used, the first waveform stored will be Axx.001, the second Axx.002, and so on, continuing until the storage medium is filled, the file number reaches 999, or there are more than 2400 files in the current working directory.

If "**Wrap**" is selected, the oldest auto-stored waveform files will be deleted whenever the medium becomes full. And the remaining auto-stored waveform files will be renamed — the oldest group of files will be named "Axx.001", the second oldest "Axx.002" and so on.

The current sequence number is deduced from inspection of all file names in the working directory, regardless of file type — panel, hard copy or waveform. The highest occupied numeric file-name extension of the form 'nnn' is determined, and the next highest number is used as the current generation number for storage operations.

Deleting Files

When a file generation is deleted, all files designated with the three-digit sequence number of the file-name extension will be deleted, regardless of file type.

Media Size/Storage Availability

The mass-storage file system indicates media size and storage availability in kbytes where 1 kbyte = 1024 bytes. Many media manufacturers specify the available storage in Mbytes where 1 Mbyte = 1 million bytes. This results in an apparent mismatch in specified versus actual media storage availability, when in fact the availability in bytes is identical.

Write Protect Switch

If the write-protection switch of the card or floppy being used has been pushed to the active position, the message "Device is Write Protected" will be displayed on the upper part of the grid whenever the medium is accessed for writing.

SRAM Card Battery

The SRAM memory card contains a button-size battery for preserving data. When this needs replacing, the message "BAD BATTERY" appears. The battery can and should be changed while the memory card is still in the oscilloscope, in order to prevent loss of information. To access the battery, remove the panel on the bottom edge of the card by removing the small screw.

MASS STORAGE

— offers the primary menus for controlling mass storage. The range of "UTILITIES" available depends on the options installed — all shown here:

Memory Card Utilities *(OPTION)*

To delete files, format, or copy a machine template onto memory card. (The Utilities menus accessed by selection of this menu for the optional Memory Card are similar to those accessed for Floppy Disk *shown on the following pages.*)

Floppy Disk Utilities

To delete files, format, or copy a machine template onto floppy disk. *The examples on the following pages illustrate this selection.*

Hard Disk Utilities *(OPTION)*

To delete files, format, or copy a machine template onto hard disk. *See page 12–14*

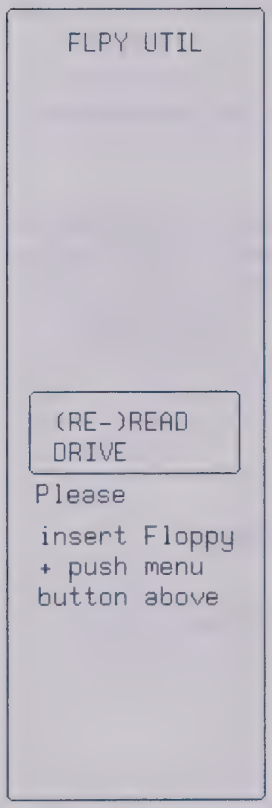
Mass Storage Preferences

To set, add or delete a working directory, or for customizing file names. *See page 12–15.*

File Transfers *(IF MORE THAN ONE MASS-STORAGE DEVICE IS AVAILABLE)*

For copying files from one storage device to another. *See page 12–18.*

FLPY UTIL



These menus appear when "Floppy Disk UTILITIES" is selected from "MASS STORAGE" and

- a floppy has been newly inserted, or
- there is no floppy in the drive.

(RE-)READ DRIVE

To read the floppy and display directory contents.

FLPY UTIL

Once the floppy has been read, these menus appear, displaying information on the installed storage media:

- Last "format" date and time
- Media size and available free space
- Date, time and size information of the selected file on the media.

TEMPLATE AND FORMATTING

To access a secondary menu for formatting storage media or copying to it the machine template. The template is an ASCII text-file containing all information required for decoding the descriptor part of a binary waveform.

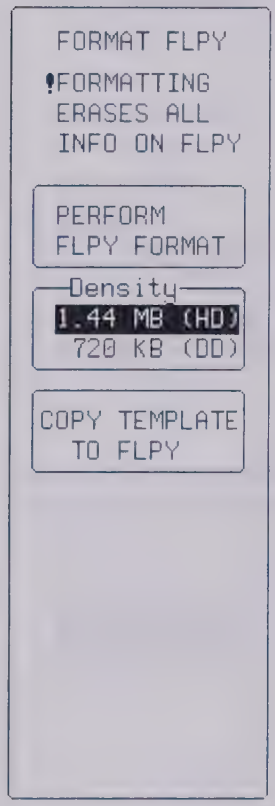
DO DELETE

To delete the file selected in the "File" menu (*below*).

File

For selecting the file to be deleted with the attributed menu knob or buttons.

FORMAT FLPY



These menus appear when "TEMPLATE AND FORMATTING" is selected from "FLOPPY UTIL".

PERFORM FLPY FORMAT

To format the floppy, in DOS format with an interleave factor of two, which optimizes throughput to and from the scope.

Density

This menu appears only in "FORMAT FLOPPY". For selecting density — **"1.44 MB (HD)"** or **"720 kB (DD)"**.

COPY TEMPLATE TO

For copying the machine template — an ASCII text-file containing all the information required to decode the descriptor part of a binary waveform — to the medium.

FORMAT HDD

These menus appear when "MASS STORAGE" "Hard Disk UTILITIES" "TEMPLATE AND FORMATTING" is selected.

QUICK FORMAT

To quickly (15 seconds) clear the portable hard disk drive.

FULL FORMAT

For a complete formatting of the HDD — recommended if the disk is non-readable.

COPY TEMPLATE TO

For copying the machine template — an ASCII text-file containing all the information required to decode the descriptor part of a binary waveform — to the medium.

PREFERENCES

These menus appear when "MASS STORAGE" "Mass Storage Preferences" is selected and are for:

- Selecting the working directory
- Deleting a directory
- Accessing the "File Name Preferences" menu
- Accessing the "Add New Directory" menu.

on drive

For selecting the medium.

File Name Preferences

To access the secondary menu for defining custom names for waveform, setup, or hardcopy files (*see next page*).

DELETE THIS DIRECTORY

To delete the directory selected in "**work with**" menu (*see below*).

work with

For selecting the directory to be used for file storage and retrieval.

Add new Directory

To access secondary menu for adding a new directory.

FILENAME PREF

This menu group appears when "File Name Preferences" is selected from the preceding menu — for defining custom names for waveform, setup, or hardcopy files.

to be set to:

To select the character for modification.

RESTORE DEFAULT NAME

For restoring the file type selected in the "File Type" menu (*see below*) to its default name.

ENTER NEW FILE NAME

To validate the newly defined name.

BACKSPACE

For moving back one space and erasing the previous character.

INSERT

To move forward to create a space for insertion of a character.

character

For selecting a character using the menu knob.

File Type

To select the file type for customizing.

NEW DIRECTORY — used to define a new directory with a custom name.

New Directory on Card:

For selecting the character to be modified.

MAKE THIS DIRECTORY

For validating the new directory.

BACKSPACE

To move back one space and erase the previous character.

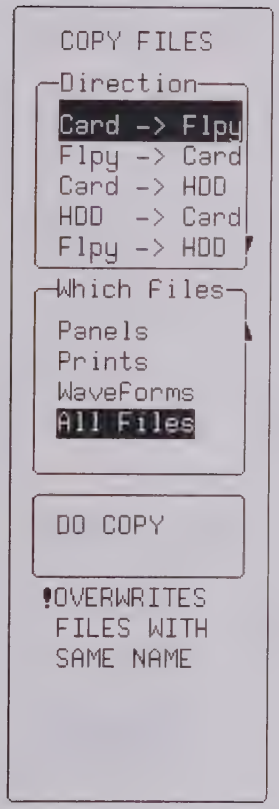
INSERT

For moving forward to create a space for the insertion of a character.

character

For selecting a character using the menu knob.

COPY FILES



These menus appear when "MASS STORAGE" "File Transfers" is selected, and copies files from one medium to another.

Direction *(DEPENDING ON OPTIONS INSTALLED)*

To select source (copy from) and destination (copy to).

Which files

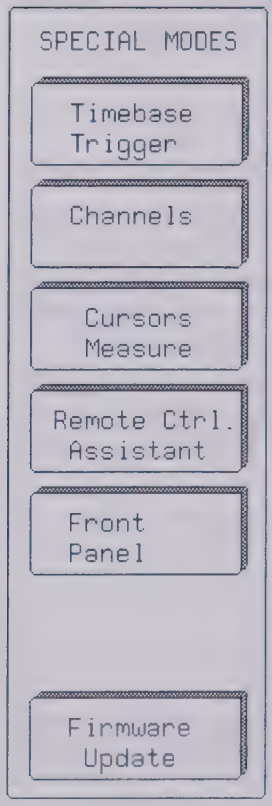
For selecting the type of file for copying.

DO COPY

To execute the copying.

Special Modes

When "Special Modes" is selected from "UTILITIES", these menus become available (*not all selections may be available*).



Timebase Trigger accesses:

- **AUTO sequence**

  For specifying the time-out in Sequence mode using the associated menu knob to change the value.

Channels accesses:

On GAIN Changes, all OFFSETS fixed and

- **In**

  For specifying the offset behavior of a gain (VOLTS/DIV) change. The offset can be fixed either in "**Volts**" or vertical "**Divisions**".

- **Automatic Recalibration**

  For turning the automatic recalibration "**ON**" or "**OFF**". Default is ON. Turning this off may speed up the acquisition, but during that time calibration is not guaranteed. .

- **Global BWL**

  To control the Global Bandwidth Limit. When "**On**", the chosen bandwidth limit applies to all channels; when "**Off**", a bandwidth limit can be set individually for each channel. *See "Coupling", Chapter 5.*

Cursors Measure Accesses:

- **Read time cursor amplitudes**

  For selecting from "In" the time cursor amplitude units in "**Volts**" or "**dBm**".

Remote Ctrl. Assistant

Accesses the "RC ASSISTANT" menus (*see next page*)

Front Panel

Accesses the "USER PREF'S" menu group (*see page 12–21*).

Firmware Update

Accesses the "FLASH UPDATE" menu (*see page 12–22*).

RC ASSISTANT

Used for monitoring remote commands received via the GPIB and RS-232 remote control ports, the Remote Control Assistant helps debug communications between the oscilloscope and the PC. When activated, it displays a log of the dialog taking place via the remote control ports of the oscilloscope. And when a communication error occurs, RC Assistant gives the additional message "Remote Control: problem detected and logged".

Log

To select:

"**Off**" — the RC Assistant will *not* capture any remote commands.

"**Errors Only**" — displays only wrong or incomplete commands received via any remote control port (default after power-on).

"**Full Dialog**" — captures all remote commands received via any remote control port and displays up to 100 lines of dialog, after which lines are overwritten on a "first–in, first–out" basis.

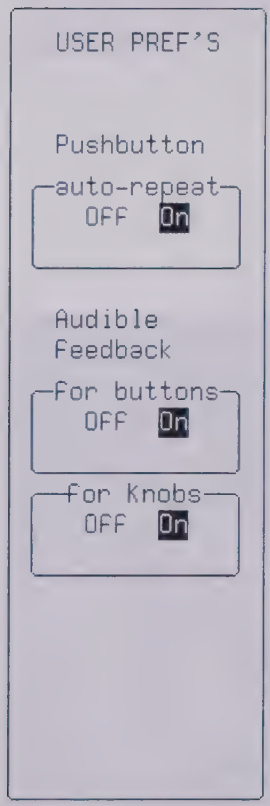
"**RS232 Also**" — logs the full dialog and sends it to a recording device connected to the RS-232 port. When this is used, commands can only be received via the GPIB port.

See also the commands COMM_HELP and COMM_HELP_LOG in the Remote Control Manual.

Turn to

Turning the knob associated with this menu enables scrolling through the log. Pushing the corresponding menu button clears the log entirely.

USER PREF'S — enables the general behavior of front-panel controls to be customized in accordance with user preferences.



Pushbutton

auto-repeat

When "On", all front-panel buttons when held down will move automatically and sequentially through all the choices in their respective menus.

Audible feedback

for buttons

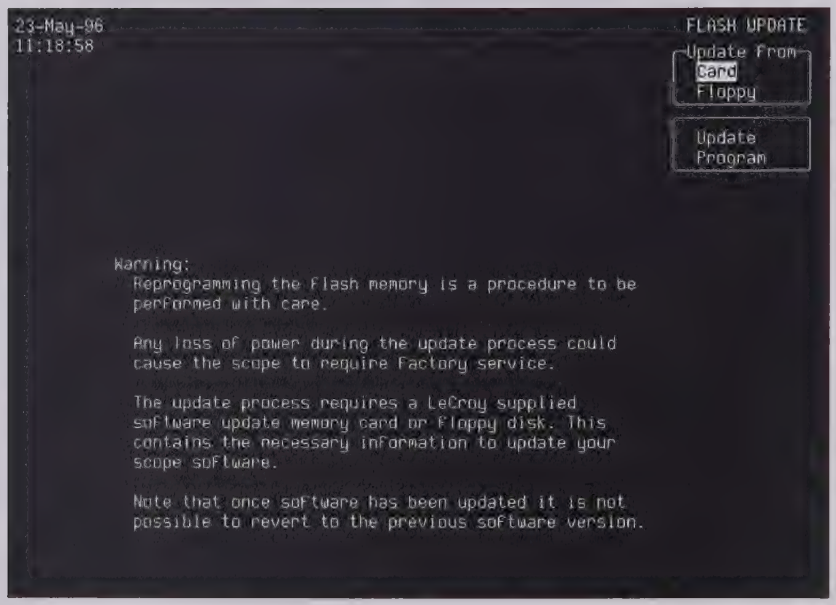
When "**On**", an audible "beep" will sound when any front-panel button is pressed

for Knobs

When "**On**", an audible "beep" will sound when any front-panel knob is turned.

FLASH UPDATE

These menus allow updating of the oscilloscope with new software. Shown here is the full screen warning message displayed when "FLASH UPDATE" has been selected from "SPECIAL MODES". The second menu is called "Update Flash" on ***LC564 AND LC584 SERIES*** oscilloscopes.


23-May-96
11:18:58
FLASH UPDATE
Update From
Card
Floppy
Update
Program
Warning:
Reprogramming the Flash memory is a procedure to be performed with care.
Any loss of power during the update process could cause the scope to require Factory service.
The update process requires a LeCroy supplied software update memory card or floppy disk. This contains the necessary information to update your scope software.
Note that once software has been updated it is not possible to revert to the previous software version.

CAL BNC Setup

CAL BNC OUT

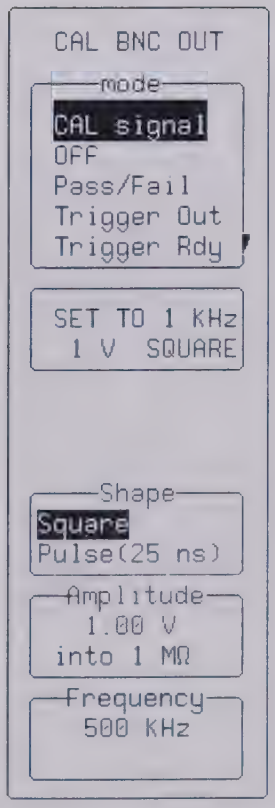
When "CAL BNC Setup" is selected from "UTILITIES", a choice can be made of the type of signal put out at the CAL BNC connector. The frequency, amplitude and pulse shape of the calibration signal can also be chosen.

In addition, the CAL BNC connector can be used to provide a pulse:

- as an action for PASS/FAIL testing
- at the occurrence of each accepted trigger event (Trigger Out)
- when the scope is ready to accept a trigger event (Trigger Rdy).

Moreover, a DC level in the range 0.05 V to 1 V in 1 MΩ can be selected.

When the instrument is switched on, the calibration signal is automatically set to its default state, 1 kHz 1 V square wave.



mode

To select the type of signal.

SET TO

To reset the CAL BNC output to its default state.

Shape

To select the form of the calibration signal.

Amplitude

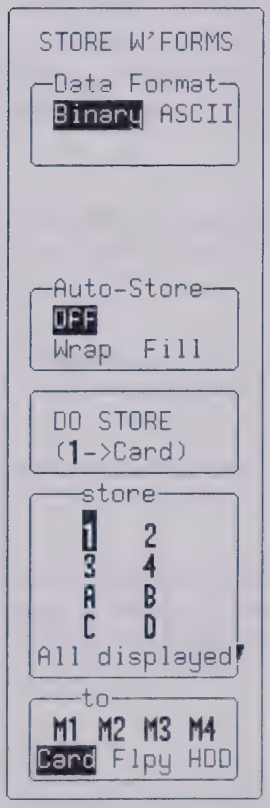
Using the associated knob, for setting the desired high level for all CAL BNC applications. If the BNC output is connected to an input channel with 50 Ω, the amplitude will be halved.

Frequency

Using the associated knob, for setting the desired frequency of a CAL signal in the range 500 Hz–2 MHz.

Waveform Store

STORE W'FORMS



Press WAVEFORM

to store waveforms to internal memory (M1, M2, M3, or M4) in LeCroy's binary format. And to store waveforms in either binary or ASCII format to floppy disk, or to memory card or removable hard disk (HDD) where available.

When "**Binary**" and either "**Flpy**" or one of the optional media is selected, the menus shown on this page will appear. But when an internal memory (M1–M4) is selected, neither the "Data Format", nor "Auto-Store" menus shown here will appear. And when the "DO STORE" menu button is pressed, the waveform will be stored automatically to the selected memory in binary format.

When "**ASCII**" is selected, *as shown on the next page*, the scope will store the waveform in an ASCII format. But this will create an output file requiring 10–20 times the disk space of the original LeCroy binary file. A one-megabyte record will typically take up 13–15 MB stored in ASCII. Furthermore, waveforms stored in ASCII cannot then be recalled back into the scope.

Note:

- ***The capacity of the Reference and "Zoom & Math" memories each match those of the acquisition memories. For every unit of record length per channel, a point can be stored in any one of the four M reference memories, and the same number of points for each "Zoom & Math" trace.***
- ***When more acquisition memory is acquired by combining channels, a single long trace can consume all the instrument's Reference memory or "Zoom & Math" trace capacity. If this happens, a warning message will show on-screen to prevent the accidental storage of a new trace to a reference memory already in use.***

Data Format

For choosing the data format, *as described on the previous page.* When "**ASCII**" has been selected, the primary "Setup ASCII Format" menu will appear immediately beneath this menu, giving access to the secondary "ASCII SETUP" menu (*see next page*). When "Binary" is selected, the waveform will be stored in binary format.

Setup ASCII Format

Appears only when "**ASCII**" is highlighted in "Data Format", as shown here. For accessing the secondary "ASCII SETUP" menu (*see next page*).

Auto Store

For automatically storing waveforms after each acquisition. "**Fill**" stores until the medium is filled, while "**Wrap**" stores continuously, discarding — first-in–first-out — the oldest files.

DO STORE

To store in accordance with specifications made in the "store" and "to" menus (*see below*).

store

For selecting the waveform. "**All displayed**" can only be selected when storing to optional storage media .

to

To select the internal memories "**M1**", "**M2**", "**M3**", or "**M4**", when "Binary is selected in the "Data Format" menu, *as shown on the previous page.*, Or the optional "**Card**", "**Flpy**" or "**HDD**", when "**ASCII**" is selected from the "Data Format" menu, *as shown here.*

ASCII SETUP

Data Format

This secondary menu, accessed through "SETUP ASCII FORMAT" offers a choice of ASCII formats. (*For details on each format, see Appendix E*).

Waveform Recall

RECALL W'FORM

Press WAVEFORM

to recall a waveform from internal memory, floppy, or the optional memory card or removable hard disk (HDD).

from

To select the storage medium from which to recall — in this case, internal "**Memories**".

DO RECALL

To execute recall based on the selections made in the "from Memory" and "to" menus (*see below*). At the same time resets the horizontal and vertical positions as well as the zooms, showing the full contents of the memory at its original magnification.

from Memory

For selecting the source memory.

to

To select the destination trace.

***Note:** Performing a recall operation from an internal memory to Trace A–D overrides any previous definition of the destination trace.*

from

Select the device or medium on which the file is stored — "**HDD**", "**Card**", or "**Flpy**".

DO RECALL

To execute recall based on the selections made in the "File" and "to" menus (*see below*).

File*

To select the file on which the waveform is stored, using the attributed menu knob.

to

For selecting the destination memory. If the "**All M**" is selected, up to four files with the same three-digit numeric extension as the current "File" selection will be recalled into memories M1–4.

* The files listed will be those in the current working directory.

Cursors: Tools for Measuring Signal Values

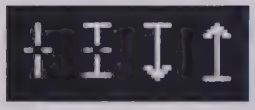
The cursors are basic and important tools for measuring signal values.

In Standard Display Mode, **Amplitude**, or **Voltage**, cursors — broken lines or bars running across the screen — are moved up and down the grid *pixel by pixel*.

Time cursors — arrows or cross-hair markers that move along the waveform (*see symbols, at left*) — can be placed at a desired time to read the amplitude of a signal at that time, and moved to *every single point acquired*.

When a Time cursor is placed on a data point, a cross-bar appears at the tail of the arrow, and at top and bottom of the cross-hair marker.

In **Absolute** Mode a single cursor is controlled. Readings for amplitude (using Amplitude cursors) or time and amplitude (using Time cursors) can be displayed at the cursor location. Measured voltage amplitudes are relative to ground; measured times to the trigger point.



In **Relative** Mode, a pair of Amplitude or Time cursors is controlled, providing readings on the difference between the two in amplitude, or time and amplitude, respectively.

Amplitudes are shown in the Trace Label for each trace. When Time cursors are used, the time is shown below the grid. And in Relative Mode the frequency corresponding to the time interval between the cursors is also displayed there.

When there are few data points displayed, Time-cursor positions are linearly interpolated between the data points. Time cursors move up and down along these straight-line segments.

Cursors and Persistence

When using Persistence, Amplitude cursors are the same as in Standard Display (*see above*). Time cursors are vertical bars running down the screen and moving across it.

Cursors in XY Display

In XY Display, Absolute-Amplitude cursors are horizontal and vertical bars that can be moved both up and down and from side–to–side across the screen. Relative-Amplitude cursors are pairs of bars that move in the same way. Absolute- and Relative-Time cursors behave as they do in Standard Display.

Combinations of the amplitude values are shown on the left-hand side of the grid in the following top-to-bottom order:

1. "ΔY value / ΔX value" ..... Ratio
2. "20 * log 10 (ratio)" ..... Ratio in dB units
3. "ΔY value * ΔX value" ..... Product
4. "f = arc tan (ΔY / ΔX)

range [–180° to +180°]" ..... Angle (polar)

5. "r = sqrt (ΔX * ΔX + ΔY * ΔY)" ... Radius (distance to origin).

The definition of ΔX and ΔY depends on the cursor used. The table below shows how ΔX and ΔY are defined for each type of measurement.

Cursors

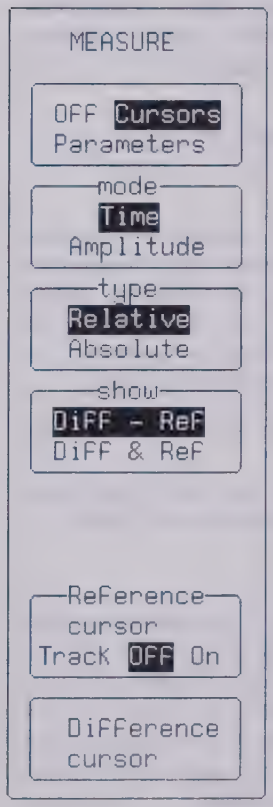
	A_{Abs}	A_{Rel}	T_{Abs}		T_{Rel}
			Org = (0,0)	Org = $V_{XOffset}$ $V_{YOffset}$	
ΔX	$V_{XRef} - 0$	$V_{XDif} - V_{XRef}$	$V_{XRef} - 0$	$V_{XRef} - V_{XOffset}$	$V_{XDif} - V_{XRef}$
ΔY	$V_{YRef} - 0$	$V_{YDif} - V_{YRef}$	$V_{YRef} - 0$	$V_{YRef} - V_{YOffset}$	$V_{YDif} - V_{YRef}$

WHERE:

A_{Abs}	*Absolute Amplitude cursors*	V_{XRef}	*Voltage of the Reference cursor on the X trace*
A_{Rel}	*Relative Amplitude cursors*	V_{YRef}	*Voltage of the Reference cursor on the Y trace*
T_{Abs}	*Absolute Time cursors*	V_{XDif}	*Voltage of the Difference cursor on the X trace*
T_{Rel}	*Relative Time cursors*	V_{YDif}	*Voltage of the Difference cursor on the Y trace*
Org	*Origin*		

MEASURE — Cursors

Press CURSORS/ MEASURE — to access the "MEASURE" Setup menus.



Off/Cursors/Parameters

To select "**Cursors**".

mode

For selecting "**Time**" (time or frequency cursors) or "**Amplitude**" (voltage or amplitude cursors) .

type

To toggle between "**Relative**" and "**Absolute**". The first displays two cursors, Reference and Difference, and indicates either the voltage or time and voltage between the two. The second shows a single cursor that indicates either voltage compared to ground level, or this *and* time compared to the trigger point.

show

To select: "**Diff – Ref**", which shows the subtraction between difference- and reference-cursor amplitudes; or "**Diff & Ref**", which displays the amplitude values for each cursor. *Not available in persistence mode.*

Reference cursor

To control the Reference cursor available with Relative cursors, using the associated menu knob. With "Track" "**ON**", both Reference and Difference cursors are controlled by this knob and move together, a constant time or voltage interval maintained between them. This tracking interval is represented by a bar — horizontal for time; vertical for voltage — appearing, respectively, at the top and left-hand edge of the grid.

Difference cursor

For controlling the Difference cursor, available when "**Relative**" is selected from "type" (*see above*), using the associated menu knob.

Cursor position (*not shown*)

For controlling the Absolute cursor, available when "**Absolute**" is selected from "type" (*see above*), using the associated menu knob.

Parameters: Automatic Measurements

The instrument can determine certain signal properties automatically, using signal parameters. *The scope's standard parameters are listed and described in Appendix D of this manual.

For common measurements on a lone signal, parameters can be measured in either of two standard classes or modes: in the amplitude or time domain.

On different signals, they can be customized and used to determine up to five of the quantities on the parameter list. Customized parameter measurements can also be used for Pass/Fail testing against chosen limits (*see page 14–13*). Several other modes are available, according to the parameters and options installed in the oscilloscope (*not all modes illustrated are necessarily available*).

Statistics on the parameter values are accumulated and can be displayed for all modes.

In addition to the overall number of sweeps used, each parameter has its average, lowest and highest value. The standard deviation of the parameter is also calculated.

Parameter Symbols

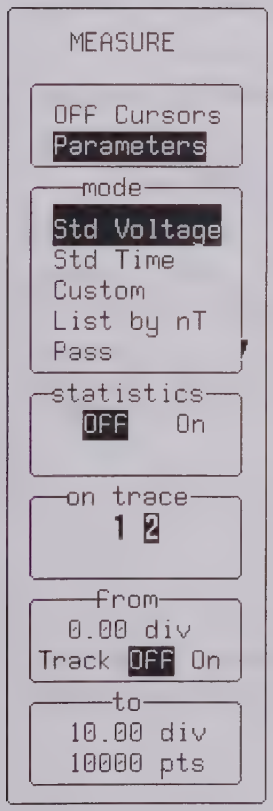
The algorithms that determine pulse waveform parameters are able to detect those situations where the mathematical formulas may be applied. However, the results obtained should be interpreted with caution. In such cases, the scope displays the name of the parameter and its value are separated on the screen by a graphic symbol, which acts either as information on the parameter or as a warning. The following table explains these symbols.

---

* A wide range of additional parameters are available in the specialized software packages, such as WP03, described in those packages' operator's manuals

Information	
⎍⎍	The parameter has been determined for several periods (up to 100), and the average of those values has been taken.
∿	The parameter has been determined over an integral number of periods.
▟	The parameter has been calculated on a histogram.
---	Insufficient data to determine the parameter.
Warnings	
⎍	Amplitude histogram is flat within statistical fluctuations; minimum and maximum are used to assign top and base.
<	Only an upper limit could be estimated (the actual value of the parameter may be smaller than the displayed value.
⇧	The signal is partially in overflow.
⇩	The signal is partially in underflow.
⇳	The signal is partially in overflow and in underflow.

MEASURE — Parameters — Standard Voltage



This mode measures, for a single trace:

- peak–to–peak (amplitude between maximum and minimum sample values)
- mean of all sample values
- standard deviation
- root mean square of all sample values
- amplitude of the signal.

Off/Cursors/Parameters

To select "**Parameters**".

mode

For selecting the "**Standard Voltage**" mode.

statistics

For turning "**On**" display of the parameter's average, lowest, highest, and standard deviation, as well as the number of sweeps included in the statistics — cleared each time the acquisition conditions change or when the CLEAR SWEEPS button is pressed. As long as "**Parameters**" is highlighted in the top menu, the accumulation of statistics continues, even if the statistics are not shown.

on trace

To select the trace for which the voltage parameters are measured. The choices available in this menu will depend on the traces displayed (a maximum of four traces can be displayed). Here, Traces 1 and 2 are displayed and "**2**" selected.

from

To determine the starting point, in screen divisions, for parameter measurements, using the associated menu knob. "Track" "**On**", links control of both the starting and end points of the parameter measurement so that they can be moved together using the associated menu knob.

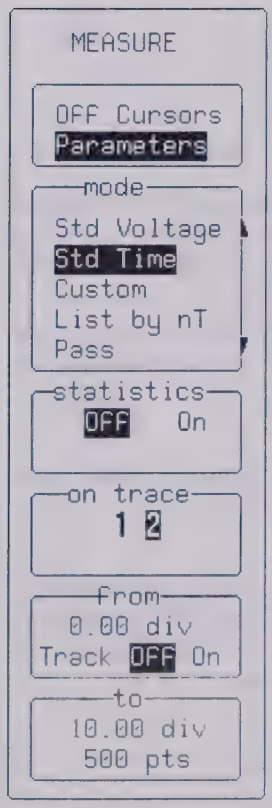
to

To determine the end point in screen divisions. Also indicates the total number of data points used for the measurements.

MEASURE — Parameters — Standard Time

This mode measures for a single trace:

- period
- width (at 50% amplitude)
- rise time (10–90% of amplitude)
- fall time (90–10% of amplitude)
- delay (from trigger to first 50% amplitude point).



Off/Cursors/Parameters

To select "**Parameters**".

mode

For selecting the "**Standard Time**" mode.

statistics

For turning "**On**" display of the parameter's average, lowest, highest, and standard deviation, as well as the number of sweeps included in the statistics — cleared each time the acquisition conditions change or when the CLEAR SWEEPS button is pressed.

As long as "**Parameters**" is highlighted in the top menu, the accumulation of statistics continues, even if the statistics are not shown.

on trace

For selecting the trace for which the time parameters are to be measured. The choices available in this menu will depend on the traces displayed (a maximum of four traces can be displayed). Here, Traces 1 and 2 are displayed and "**2**" selected.

from

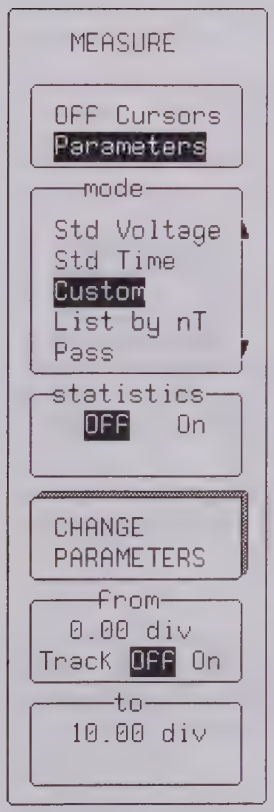
To determine the starting point, in screen divisions, for parameter measurements. "Track" "**On**", links control of both the starting and end points of the parameter measurement so that they can be moved together using the associated menu knob.

to

To determine the end point in screen divisions. Also indicates the total number of data points used for the measurements.

MEASURE — Parameters — Custom

In this mode, up to five parameters can be displayed for various traces.



Off/Cursors/Parameters

For selecting "**Parameters**".

mode

For selecting the "**Custom**" mode.

statistics

For turning "**On**" display of the parameter's average, lowest, highest, and standard deviation, as well as the number of sweeps included in the statistics — cleared each time the acquisition conditions change or when the CLEAR SWEEPS button is pressed.

As long as "**Parameters**" is highlighted in the top menu, the accumulation of statistics continues, even if the statistics are not shown.

CHANGE PARAMETERS

For accessing the secondary "CHANGE PARAM" menu (*see following pages*).

from

To determine the starting point, in screen divisions, for parameter measurements. "Track" "**On**", links control of both the starting and end points of the parameter measurement so that they can be moved together using the associated menu knob.

to

To determine the end point in screen divisions.

CHANGE PARAM — for modifying parameters.

On line

To select for modification up to five different parameters, "**1**", "**2**", "**3**", "**4**", or "**5**".

Category

To specify the category of parameter. When "**All**" is selected, the "measure" menu (see below) will feature all parameters. However, when a particular category is selected, only those parameters in the category are shown.

DELETE ALL PARAMETERS

For deleting all parameters previously selected.

measure

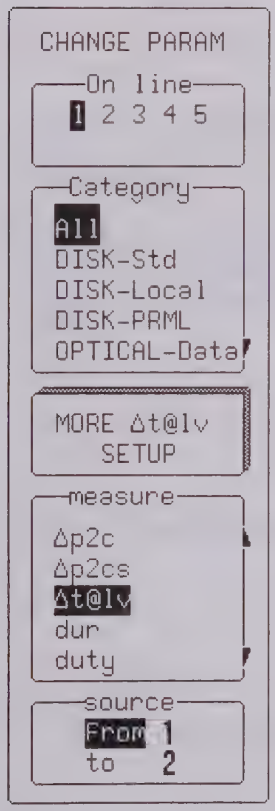
To choose the new parameter to be measured on this line. When "**--**" is selected the line is not used.

of

For selecting the channel or trace on which the parameter will be measured.

CHANGE PARAM

Parameters can be customized to meet specific needs:



On line

To select for modification up to five different parameters, "**1**", "**2**", "**3**", "**4**", or "**5**".

Category

To specify the category or type of parameter.

MORE Δt@lv SETUP

Calls up the"**Δt@lv**" customization menu (*next page*).

measure

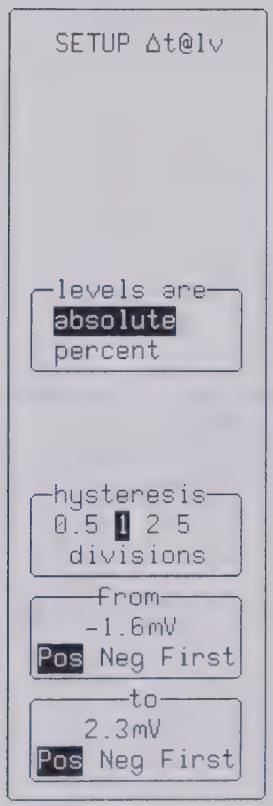
Set at **Δt@lv**.

source

Using the menu button, selects the channel — "**1**", "**2**" ("**3**" or "**4**") — or memory ("**A**", "**B**", "**C**", or "**D**"). While the knob selects "**from**" which and "**to**" which channel the measurement is to be made.

SETUP

"Δt@lv" — for example — for customizing the Δt@lv parameter (*see Appendix D for descriptions of all standard parameters*).



levels are

For selecting whether the levels should be set in absolute or percentage of the peak–to–peak signal value.

hysteresis

To set the hysteresis division. A voltage band is extended equidistantly above and below the selected level. In order for the signal to be considered valid, and not as noise, the signal must exceed, or cross, the upper or lower limits of this band by half the hysteresis-division setting.

from

For selecting the voltage or amplitude-percentage setting of the level on the waveform at which the timing is to be measured. And to select whether the measurement should be made on a "**Pos**"-itive (rising) edge, or a "**Neg**"-ative (falling) edge, or, with "**First**", on either type of edge.

to

For selecting the voltage or amplitude-percentage setting of the level on the waveform at which the timing is to end. And to select whether it should finish on a "**Pos**"-itive (rising) edge, or a "**Neg**"-ative (falling) edge, or, with "**First**", on either type of edge.

SETUP

"Δc2d+" — for example — for customizing the Δc2d+ parameter (*see Appendix D for descriptions of all standard parameters*).

hysteresis

To set the hysteresis division. A voltage band is extended equidistantly above and below the selected level. In order for the signal to be considered valid, and not as noise, the signal must exceed, or cross, the upper or lower limits of this band by half the hysteresis-division setting.

clock edge

To select the clock edge or edges used for this parameter measurement.

data edge

For selecting the data edge or edges used for the measurement.

Pass/Fail Testing

Parameters can also be used in carrying out Pass/Fail tests. These tests require a combination of measurements within chosen limits, using an action provoked when the test either passes or fails, depending on which has been specified. Signals can also be Pass/Fail tested against a tolerance mask.

Up to five parameters can be tested against limits at the same time. And, in tolerance mask testing, a trace can be compared to a tolerance mask.

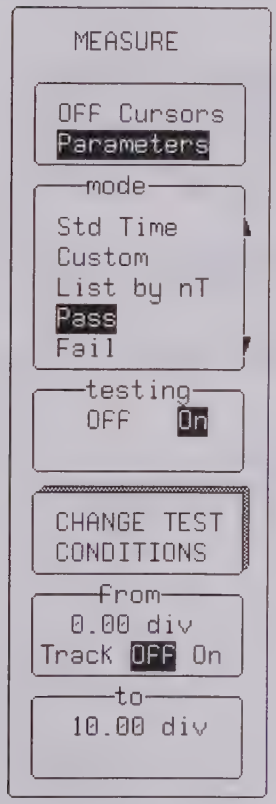
Whether the tests pass or fail, any or all of the following actions can be provoked:

- Stop capturing further signals
- Dump the screen image to a hardcopy unit
- Store selected traces to internal memory, to a memory card (*optional*), or to a floppy
- Sound the buzzer
- Emit a pulse on the CAL BNC.

The Pass/Fail display will show:

- Results on the current waveforms
- Number of events passing
- Total number of sweeps treated
- Actions to be taken.

MEASURE — Parameters — Pass/Fail



Off/Cursors/Parameters

To select "**Parameters**".

mode

To select "**Pass**" or "**Fail**".

testing

For turning testing "**Off**" or "**On**". Testing is turned off in order to observe only the parameter variations.

CHANGE TEST CONDITIONS

To access the secondary "CHANGE TEST" menu (*see next page)*

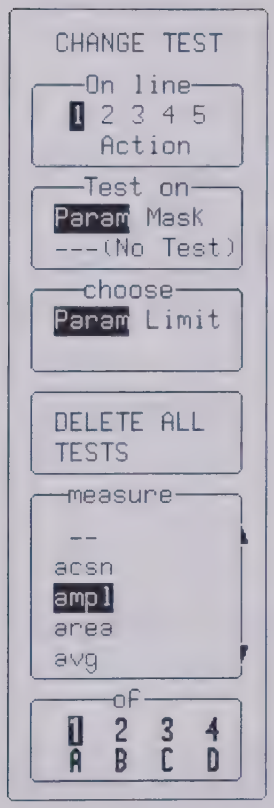
from

To determine the starting point, in screen divisions, for parameter measurements.

to

To determine the end point in screen divisions.

CHANGE TEST



On line

To select for modification up to five different parameters, "**1**, **2**, **3**, **4** or **5**"

Test on

To select "**Param**" or, if no test is required, "**— (No Test)**".

choose

To select "**Param**".

DELETE ALL TESTS

For deleting all tests previously selected.

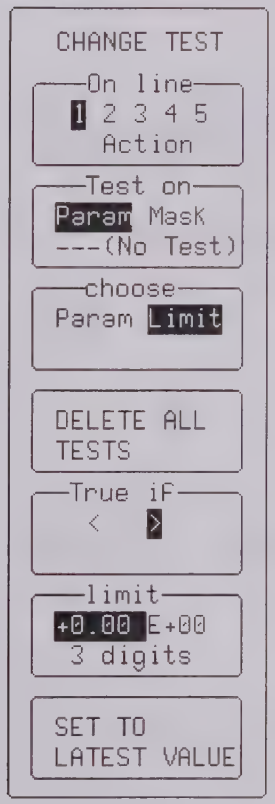
measure

For selecting the new parameter to be measured on this line. When "**– –**" is selected the line is not used.

of

For selecting the channel or trace on which the parameter will be measured.

CHANGE TEST — Param (Changing Limits for Pass/Fail Tests on Parameters)



On line

To select for modification up to five different parameters, "**1**, **2**, **3**, **4** or **5**".

Test on

To Select "**Param**" or "**--- (No Test)**" if no test required on the selected line (*"Mask" selection, page 14–17*).

choose

For setting to "**Limit**" (*"Param" 14–15*).

DELETE ALL TESTS

For deleting all tests previously selected.

True if

For selecting the adequate relation — smaller than "**<**" , or greater than "**>**".

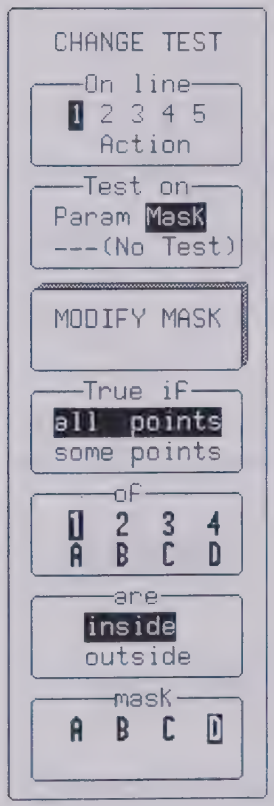
limit

To make the choice of one of three modifications of a limit: its mantissa, exponent, and the number of digits for the representation of its mantissa. The corresponding menu button is used to select, and the associated knob to modify the number in that field.

SET TO LATEST VALUE

To set the limit to the latest measured value — a starting value for the final adjustment.

CHANGE TEST — Mask (Changing Pass/Fail Test on a Mask)



On line

To select for modification up to five different parameters, "**1**, **2**, **3**, **4** or **5**" (*"Action" selection, page 14–20*).

Test on

For setting to "**Mask**" or "**— (No Test)**" if no test required on the selected line (*"Param" 14–15*).

MODIFY MASK

To access the secondary menu for modifying mask settings.

True if

For choosing this mask-test condition.

of

To select channel or trace for testing.

are

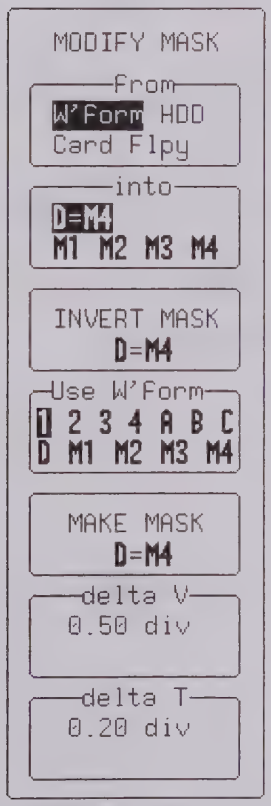
For choosing this mask-test condition.

mask

To select mask trace "**A**", "**B**", "**C**" or "**D**".

***Note:** Pass/Fail testing against a mask is affected by horizontal and vertical zooming of the mask trace. The test will be made inside the area bordered by the parameter cursors. Timebases of the mask and the trace under test should be identical. For visual mask testing, a single grid should be used when performing a mask test on a single trace; two grids display should be used for testing on two traces.*

MODIFY MASK — W'form (Generating a Mask from a Waveform)



from

To select "**W'form**".

into

For selecting "**D=M4**" if the mask is to be automatically displayed on the screen Otherwise select "**M1**", "**M2**", "**M3**", or "**M4**".

Using "RECALL W'FORM" (*see previous chapter*) memories M1–M4 can be recalled to traces A to D for display.

INVERT MASK

To generate an inverted mask.

Use W'form

For selecting the waveform to be used as reference. The mask will be generated around this waveform.

MAKE MASK

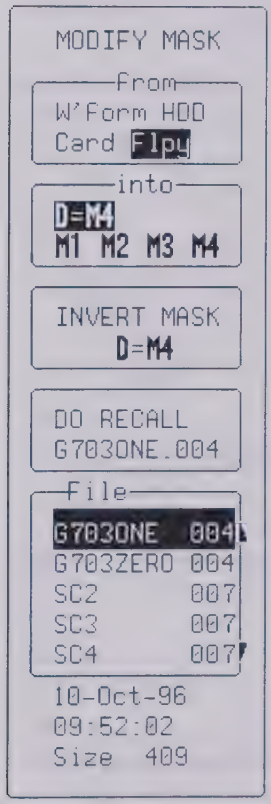
To generate the mask.

delta V

For selecting tolerance in amplitude, using the attributed knob.

delta T

For selecting tolerance in time, using the attributed menu knob.



from

To select the device.

into

For selecting "**D=M4**" to automatically display the mask on- screen, or "**M1**", "**M2**", "**M3**" or "**M4**".

INVERT MASK

For generating an inverted mask.

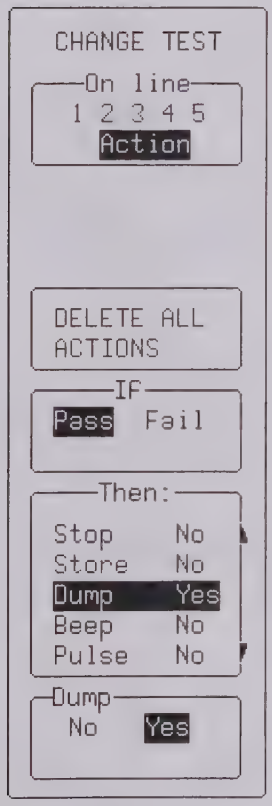
DO RECALL

To recall the mask.

File

To select the appropriate mask, using the associated menu knob.

CHANGE TEST — Action (Setting PASS/FAIL Actions)



Depending on the test result certain actions can be taken.

On line

For selecting "**Action**".

DELETE ALL ACTIONS

To delete all previously selected actions.

If

To determine if the action will be taken on "**PASS**" or "**FAIL**".

Then

For selecting the action ("**Dump**" in this example). The selected action will then be activated in the menu below.

Dump

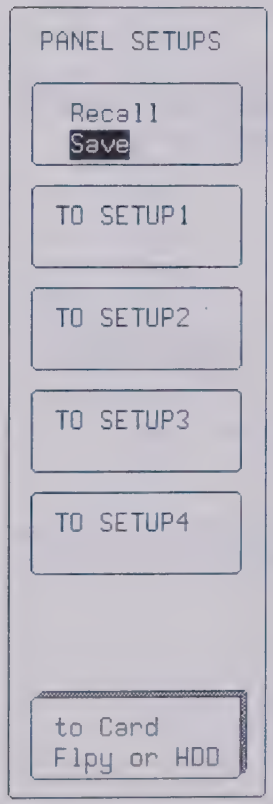
To perform ("**Yes**") or disable ("**No**") the action chosen in the "Then" menu (*see above*). The choice will then be indicated alongside the already selected action in "Then".

Saving and Recalling Panel Setups

PANEL SETUPS

PANEL SETUPS

Press **to access the menus used for saving or recalling configurations — panel setups — to non-volatile memory or floppy disk, or to memory card or portable hard disk (HDD) depending on options installed.**



Recall
Save

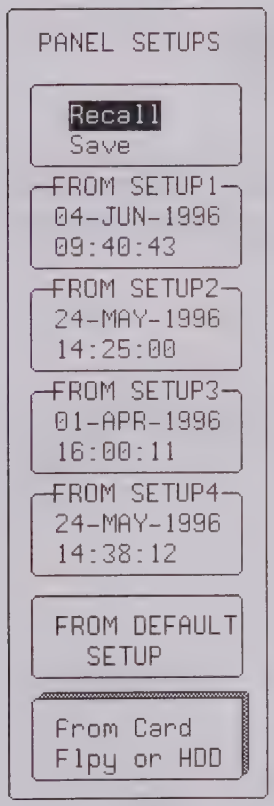
To choose to save a panel setup or recall one already saved. When "**Save**" is selected, *as shown here*, the "TO SETUP" menus appear. While when "**Recall**" is chosen, the "FROM SETUP" menus, *shown overleaf*, appear

TO SETUP 1 ...**2** ...**3** or ...**4**

For saving any of four possible setups.

to Card, Flpy or HDD

For saving a setup to floppy, memory card, or hard disk, depending on options.



Recall/Save

To select for saving or recalling a panel setup. When "**Save**" is selected, *as shown on the previous page*, the "TO SETUP" menus appear. While when "**Recall**" is chosen, *as shown here*, the "FROM SETUP" menus appear.

FROM SETUP 1 ...**2** ...**3** or ...**4**

For recalling any of four possible saved setups. In the example shown here, all four possible setups have been stored. When no setup has been stored, that menu will indicate "Empty".

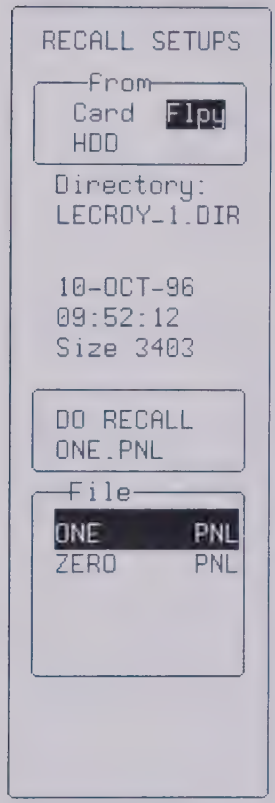
FROM DEFAULT SETUP

To choose a default setup, already stored in the scope.

from Card, Flpy or HDD

For accessing the secondary "RECALL SETUPS" menu to recall a setup stored on floppy, card or portable hard disk, depending on the options installed.

RECALL SETUPS



from

For selecting to recall a setup from floppy, or card or portable hard disk, depending on the options installed and the medium on which the desired setup is stored.

DO RECALL

To perform the recall of the setup selected in the "File" menu (*see below*).

File

For selecting the stored setup, using the attributed menu knob.

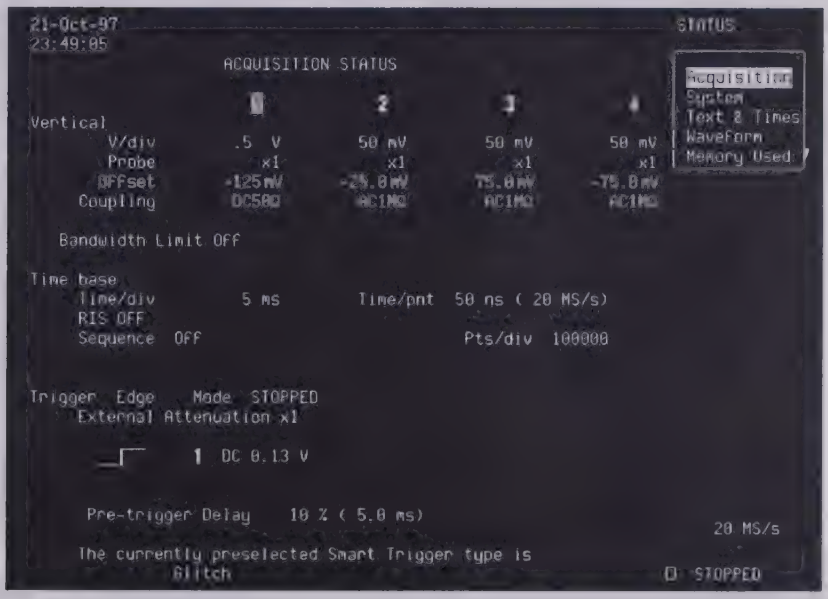
The Complete Picture, Summarized

SHOW STATUS

Press to summon the "STATUS" menu and access full-screen summaries of the oscilloscope's system and other functional status.

Acquisition Status

Vertical sensitivity, probe attenuation, offset and coupling for each channel, as well as timebase and trigger status summaries.



System

Scope serial number, firmware version, software and hardware options installed.

The "Software Options" menu accesses the "ADD OPTION KEY" menu, enabling the user to code-in new software. The user simply provides LeCroy with the serial number, soft version number, and scope ID (*all displayed on this screen*), as well as order information. LeCroy provides a unique option key that can be entered from the instrument's front panel.

The "MORE VERSION INFORMATION" menu is used to perform a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) of the internal firmware and will generate a checksum that can be used to ensure the firmware is uncorrupted.

For information on Software Options contact your local LeCroy Sales/Service organization or visit our web-site at http://www.lecroy.com/options

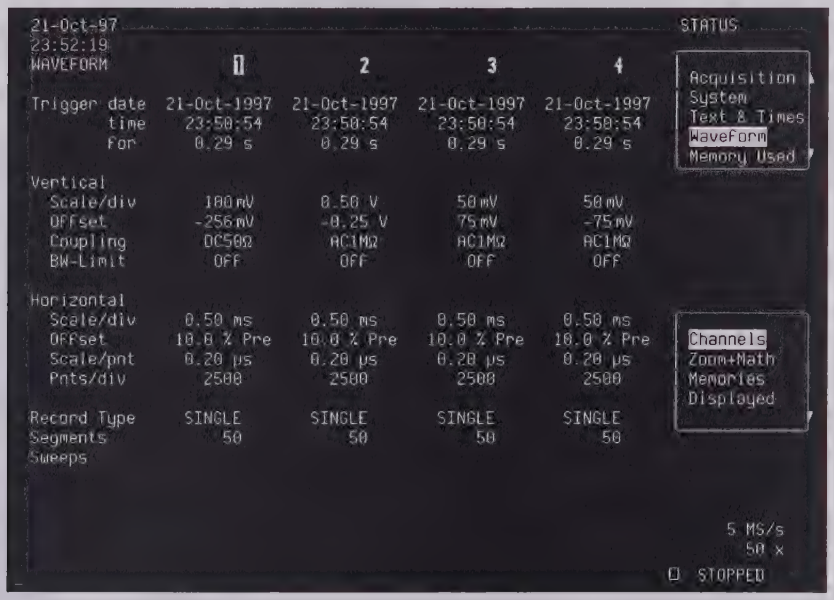
Text & Times

User text in the waveform descriptor* and trigger timing information. And when "Text & Times" is selected the "for" and "Select" menus shown here also appear, allowing a trace or memory to be selected and a segment range to be specified for information.

* Refer to the *Remote Control Manual*.

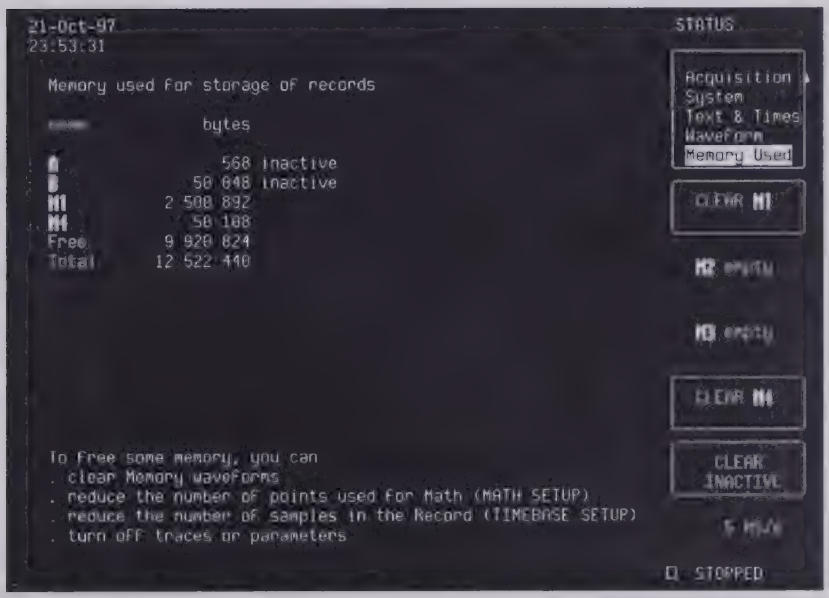
Waveform Summary

Detailed status information on channels, memories, zoom and math or displayed traces, specified using the bottom menu, which appears when "Waveform" is selected from the top.



Memory Used

Shows how much memory is being used and how much remains free. Memory allocation: memories M1–4 can be selected and then cleared using the "CLEAR INACTIVE" menu. The dedicated persistence data maps for each channel are dynamically created, resized and deleted as necessary. The allocation of memory to each of these data maps will appear in this menu. Persistence data maps are cleared using the CLEAR SWEEPS button.



Signal Capture

Acquisition System

Bandwidth (-3 dB)

- **LC334●LC374 Series:** @ 50 Ω: DC to 500 MHz
  @ 1 MΩ DC: DC to 500 MHz typical at probe tip
- **LC534●LC574 Series:** @ 50 Ω: DC to 1 GHz
  @ 1 MΩ DC: DC to 500 MHz typical at probe tip
- **LC564●LC584 Series:** @ 50 Ω: DC to 1 GHz; @ 1 MΩ DC: DC to 500 MHz typical at probe tip

With PP005 passive probe as standard for all models; active probes optional.

Number of Channels: four

Number of Digitizers: four

Max. Sample Rate Window (*see, too, tables on the following pages*)

- **LC334●LC534 Series:** 4 ms @ 2 GS/s in single-shot mode
- **LC374 Series:** 0.25 ms @ 2 GS/s in single-shot mode
- **LC574 Series:** 2 ms @ 4 GS/s in single-shot mode
- **LC564 Series:** 62.5 µs at 4 GS/s
- **LC584 Series:** 2 ms at 8 GS/s

Sensitivity

- **LC334 Series:** 2 mV/div to 5 V/div, 50 Ω, fully variable
  2 mV/div to 5 V/div, 1 MΩ, fully variable
- **LC374●LC534●LC574●LC564●LC584 Series:**
  2 mV/div to 1 V/div, 50 Ω, fully variable
  2 mV/div to 10 V/div, 1 MΩ, fully variable

Offset Range

- **LC334 Series:** 2.00–9.99 mV/div: ±120 mV
  10.0–199 mV/div: ±1.2 V
  0.2–5.0 V/div: ±24 V
- **LC374●LC534●LC574●LC564●LC584 Series:**
  2.00–4.99 mV/div: ±400 mV
  5.00–99 mV/div: ±1 V
  0.1–0.99 V/div: ±10 V
  1.0–10 V/div: ± 100 V (1 MΩ only)

***Note:** Where a particular series is NOT mentioned, the specification concerned applies to all LeCroy color DSOs. And where the series is mentioned without reference to a particular model the specification concerned applies to all models in the series.*

Specifications are liable to change without notice. For the most up-to-date information, consult the latest product data sheets, available from LeCroy offices.

Maximum Sample Rate and Acquisition Memories
LC334●LC374●LC534●LC574 Series

Channels Used (Peak Detect ON/OFF) on Series...	Max. Sample Rate	Memory per Channel (in Points)			Active Channels
		Model			
		A	AM	AL	
Any Channel (Peak Detect OFF)					
LC334●LC534 Series	500 MS/s	100 k	500 k	2 M	All
LC374 Series	1 GS/s	100 k	–	–	
LC574 Series	1 GS/s	100 k	500 k	2 M	
Any Channel (Peak Detect ON)					
LC334●LC534 Series	100 MS/s data + 400 MS/s peaks	50 k data + 50 k peaks	250 k data + 250 k peaks	1 M data + 1 M peaks	All
LC374 Series					
LC574 Series					
Paired Channels (Peak Detect OFF)					
LC334●LC534 Series	1 GS/s	250 k	1 M	4 M	CH 2 & CH 3
LC374 Series	2 GS/s	250 k	–	–	
LC574 Series	2 GS/s	250 k	1 M	4 M	
All Channels Combined (Peak Detect OFF)					
LC334●LC534 Series (by PP093 Adapter)	2 GS/s	500 k	2 M	8 M	One
LC374 Series (*without* external adapter)	2 GS/s on CH 2	500 k	–	–	
LC574 Series (by PP093 Adapter)	4 GS/s	500 k	2 M	8 M	

Maximum Sample Rate and Acquisition Memories
LC564◕LC584 Series

Channels Used on Series...	Max. Sample Rate	Memory per Channel (in Points)				Active Channels
		Model				
		A	AM	AL	AXL	
Any Channel						
LC564 Series	2 GS/s	100 k	–	–	–	All
LC584 Series	2 GS/s	100 k	500 k	2 M	4 M	
Paired Channels						
LC564 Series	4 GS/s	250 k	–	–	–	CH 2 & CH 3
LC584 Series	4 GS/s	250 k	1 M	4 M	8 M	
All Channels Combined						
LC584 Series	8 GS/s	500 k	2 M	8 M	16 M	One (CH 2, or any displayed channel in Auto-Combine Mode)

Scale Factors: Wide range of probe attenuation factors available

DC Accuracy: ±1 % typical; guaranteed ≤ ±2 % full scale (eight divisions) at 0 V offset

- **LC564◕LC584 Series:** ± (2 % full scale + 1.6 % offset value) at gain ≥10 mV/div

Vertical Resolution: 8 bits

Bandwidth Limiter

- **LC334 Series:** 30 MHz
- **LC374◕LC534◕LC574 Series:** 25 MHz, 200 MHz
- **LC564◕LC584 Series:** 25 MHz and 200 MHz typical

Input Coupling: AC, DC, GND

Input Impedance:

- **LC334 Series:** 10 MΩ//15 pF (system capacitance with PP005)
- **LC374◕LC534◕LC574◕LC564◕LC584 Series:** 10 MΩ//11 pF (system capacitance using PP005), or 50 Ω ±1 %

Max. Input: 50 Ω: ±5 V DC (500 mW) or 5 V rms

- **LC334:** 1 MΩ — 250 V max (DC + peak AC ≤ 10 kHz)
- **LC374LC534LC574LC564LC584 Series:** 1 MΩ: 400 V max (DC + peak AC ≤ 10kHz)

SMARTMemory™: Total memory management system, dynamically manages acquisition memory to guarantee signals are always sampled at the highest possible sample rate and system RAM and microprocessor resources always optimally employed.

System Random Access Memory:

Models					System RAM (Mbytes)
LC334A	LC374A	LC534A	LC574A		8
LC334AM	LC534AM	LC564A	LC574AM		
LC334AL	LC534AL	LC564A	LC584A	LC584AM	16
LC574AL	LC584AL	LC584AXL			64

Acquisition Modes

Random Interleaved Sampling (RIS): For repetitive signals from:

- **LC334LC534 Series:** 1 ns/div to 5 µs/div
- **LC374LC574 Series:** 1 ns/div to 2 µs/div
- **LC564LC584 Series:** 200 ps/div to 1 µs/div

Single Shot: For transient and repetitive signals from:

- **LC334LC534 Series:** 10 ns/div
- **LC374LC574 Series:** 1 ns/div, all channels active
- **LC564LC584 Series:** 500 ps/div, all channels active

Peak Detect ***(NOT ON LC564 OR LC584 SERIES)*****:** At 400 MS/s, peak detect can capture high-speed events down to 1 ns, while simultaneously capturing normally sampled data. (However, with a resolution of 2.5 ns there is no guarantee that all high-speed events less than 2.5 ns in duration will be captured with peak detect.)

Sequence: Stores multiple events, each time-stamped, in segmented acquisition memories

Dead Time between Segments: Typically 30 µs, maximum 65 µs (or < 30 µs and maximum of 50 µs on ***LC334, LC534 AND LC574 SERIES***)

Models				No. Segments
LC334A	LC374A	LC534A	LC574A	2–500
LC564A		LC584A		2–1000
LC334AM●AL	LC534AM●AL	LC574AM●AL	LC584AM●AL●AXL	2–2000

Timebase System

Timebases: Main and up to four Zoom Traces
Time/Div Range: 1 ns/div to 1000 s/div
- **LC564 Series:** 1 ns/div at 4 GS/s, and 2 ns/div at 2 GS/s, to 1000 s/div
- **LC584:** 500 ps/div at 8 GS/s

Clock Accuracy: ≤10 ppm
Interpolator Resolution: 10 ps
Roll Mode:
- **LC334●LC374●LC534●LC574 Series:** For > 500 000 points: 10–1000 s/div
- **LC564●LC584 Series:** Ranges 500 ms–1000 s/div

External Clock:
- **LC334●LC374●LC534●LC574 Series:** ≤100 MHz (20–100 MHz for *LC374 AND LC574 SERIES*) on EXT input with ECL, TTL or zero crossing levels. Optional (CKTRIG) 50–500 MHz rear-panel fixed-frequency clock input
- **LC564●LC584 Series:** CKTRIG option includes rear-panel fixed-frequency clock input, DC–500 MHz (< 20 ns rise/fall time)

External Reference: Optional (CKTRIG) 10 MHz rear-panel input

Triggering System

Modes: NORMAL, AUTO, SINGLE, AND STOP.
Sources: CH1, CH2, CH3, CH4, Line, Ext, Ext/10 (Ext/5 on *LC564/LC584 SERIES*). Slope, Level, Coupling unique to each source
Slope: Positive, Negative
- **LC564●LC584 Series:** Positive, Negative, Bi-Slope (Window in and out)

Coupling: AC, DC, HF, LFREJ, HFREJ
Pre-trigger Recording: 0–100 % of full scale (adjustable in 1 % increments)
Post-trigger Delay: 0–10 000 divisions (adjustable in 0.1 div increments)

Hold-off by Time: 10 ns–20 s

- **LC564●LC584 Series:** 2 ns–20 s

Holdoff by Events: 0–99 999 999

Internal Trigger Range: ±5 screen divisions

EXT Trigger Max Input:

- **LC334 Series:** 10 MΩ/15 pF (LC334A system capacitance using PP002): 250 V max. (DC + peak AC ≤ 10 kHz); 50 Ω ±1 %: ±5 V DC (500 mW) or 5 V rms
- **LC374●LC534●LC574 Series:** 10 MΩ/11 pF (system capacitance using PP005): 400 V (DC + peak AC ≤ 10 kHz); 50 Ω ±1 %: ±5 V DC (500 mW) or 5 V rms
- **LC564●LC584A Series:** 10 MΩ/15 pF at probe tip (PP005): 400 V (DC + peak AC ≤ 10 kHz); 50 Ω ±1 %: ±5 V DC (500 mW) or 5 V rms

EXT Trigger Range: ±0.5 V with EXT; ±5 V with Ext/10

- **LC564●LC584A Series:** ±1.2 V on EXT; ±6 V with Ext/5

Trigger Timing: Trigger Date and Time are listed in the "Memory Status" Menu

Trigger Comparator: Optional ECL rear panel output. Alternatively, the calibrator output can provide a trigger output or a PASS/FAIL test output

SMART Trigger Types

Pattern: Trigger on the logic combination of five inputs — CH 1, CH 2, CH 3, CH 4, and EXT Trigger, where each source can be defined as "High", "Low" or "Don't Care". The Trigger can be defined as the beginning or end of the specified pattern.

Signal or Pattern Width: Trigger on width between two limits able to be selected from 2.5 ns to 20 s. Will typically trigger on glitches 1 ns wide

- **LC564●LC584 Series:** Trigger on glitches as short as 600 ps or on pulse widths, 600 ps–20 s

Signal or Pattern Interval: Trigger on interval between two limits able to be selected from 10 ns to 20 s

- **LC564●LC584 Series:** 2 ns to 20 s

Dropout: Trigger if the input signal drops out for longer than a time-out from 25 ns to 20 s

- **LC564●LC584 Series:** 2 ns to 20 s

Qualified: Trigger on any source only if a given state (or transition) has occurred on another source (The delay between

these events can be defined as a number of events on the trigger channel or as a time interval.)

TV: Allows selection of up to 1500 lines and odd or even fields synchronized for PAL, SECAM, NTSC or nonstandard video

Runt ***(LC564 AND LC584 SERIES ONLY)*****:** Trigger on positive or negative runts between two limits able to be selected from 600 ps to 20 s

Slew Rate ***(LC564 AND LC584 SERIES ONLY)*****:** Trigger on rising, falling edges between 600 ps and 20 s

Exclusion Triggering: Can be performed in Glitch, Interval, Runt and Slew-Rate Trigger modes: triggers on intermittent faults by specifying the normal width, period, level or slew of a signal. The oscilloscope will trigger only on aberrations which are shorter or longer than normal

Autosetup

Automatically sets sensitivity, vertical offset and timebase on all display channels

Autosetup Time: Two to three seconds

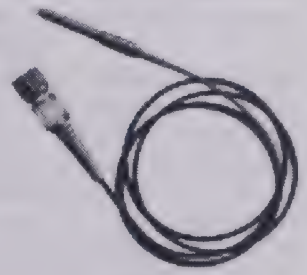
Vertical Find: Automatically sets sensitivity and offset for selected channel

Probes

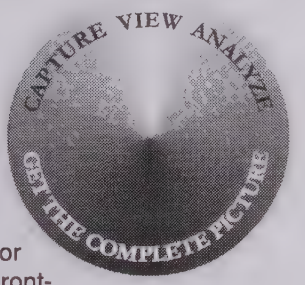
LC334: One PP005 probe supplied per channel. DC to 350 MHz typical at probe tip, 500 V max

LC374 LC534 LC574A LC564 LC584 Series: One PP005 probe supplied per channel. DC to 500 MHz typical at probe tip, 500 V max

Probe calibration: Max 1 V into 1 MΩ, 500 mV into 50 Ω, frequency and amplitude able to be programmed, pulse or square wave able to be selected, rise and fall time 1 ns typical



Signal Viewing



Display

Screen Type: Color 10-inch Raster Scan CRT, 0.26 mm dot pitch
Resolution: 640 x 480 points
Display Area: 170 mm x 125 mm
Controls: Rear-panel presets for position, brightness and contrast; Front-panel menu controls for brightness and color selection
Grid Styles: Single, Dual, Quad, Octal, XY, Single + XY, Dual + XY, and Full Screen — an enlarged view of each grid style
Graticules: Internally generated; separate intensity control for grids and waveforms; selectable blending of grid with displayed traces
Waveform Style: Dot Join with optional sample point highlight or Dots only
Persistence Modes: Color Graded and Analog Persistence, infinite or variable with decay over time

- **LC334A Series**: Analog Persistence only available when all four channels are combined.

Trace Display: Opaque or transparent mode, with overlap management
Number of Traces: Eight (any mix of channels, memories or Math functions)
Real-time Clock: Date, hours, minutes, seconds.
External Monitor: Rear-panel 15-pin socket for VGA compatible monitor
Vertical Zoom: Up to five times vertical expansion (50 times with averaging, up to 40 μV/div sensitivity)
Horizontal Zoom

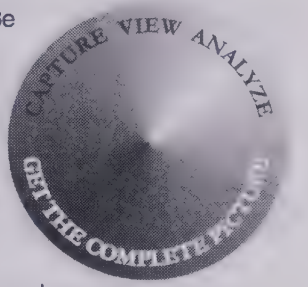
- **LC334A–LC534A:** up to 2–2.5 points/division
- **LC374A–LC574A:** up to 0.4–0.5 points/division
- **LC564–LC584 Series:** up to 0.4 points/division

Signal Analysis

Processing System

Microprocessor: 96 MHz PowerPC™ 603e
- **LC584AXL:**192 MHz owerPC™

System RAM: 8–64 Mbytes
Video Memory: 1 Mbyte
Cache Memory: 32 kbytes
Persistence Data Map Memory: 16 bits per displayed pixel (64 000 levels)



Waveform Processing

Up to four processing functions may be performed simultaneously. Standard functions available are: Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide, Negate, Identity, Summation Averaging and Sine x/x. The source information for a math function trace can be data from an acquisition channel or from another math function trace. This allows display of traces which 'daisy chain' math functions.

Average: Up to 10^6 averages possible

Extrema: Roof, Floor, or Envelope values from 1 to 10^6 sweeps.

ERES: Six Low-Pass digital filters provide up to 11-bit vertical resolution. Sampled data is always available, even when a trace is turned off.

FFT: Spectrum Analysis with five windowing functions and FFT averaging

Resample: Deskew feature that allows a signal to be resampled and adjusted in time relative to another signal.

Statistical Diagnostics: The Parameter Analysis package permits in-depth diagnostics on waveform parameters. With this package, live histogramming of any waveform parameter measurement is possible. The histogram can be autoscaled to display the center and width of the distribution. Any of the above processes can be invoked without losing the data. Trending is also available with this package. This package is standard on the LC574 and LC584 Series, optional on all other models.

Internal Memory

Waveform Memory: Up to four 16-bit Memories (M1, M2, M3, M4), whose length corresponds to the length of the channel acquisition memory

Zoom and Math Memory: Up to four 16-bit Waveform Processing Memories (A, B, C, D), whose length corresponds to the length of the channel acquisition memory

Setup Memory: Four non-volatile memories (Optional Memory Cards, Flash Disks or removable Hard Disks may also be used for high-capacity waveform and setup storage.)

Cursor Measurements

Relative Time: Pair of arrow cursors measure time differences and voltage differences relative to each other

Relative Voltage: Pair of line cursors measure voltage differences

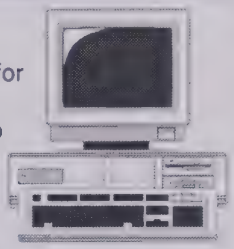
Absolute Time: Cross-hair marker measures time relative to the trigger, and voltage with respect to ground

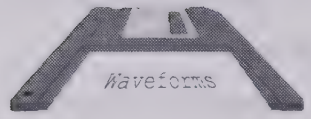
Absolute Voltage: Reference bar measures voltage with respect to ground

Automatic Measurements

A wide range of pulse parameter measurements are available. These are categorized for ease of use. The categories include Pulse, Horizontal, and Vertical parameters. Basic statistical measurements, included as standard, (average, highest, lowest, and standard deviation) can be made on these parameter measurements in order to understand their distribution. Pass/Fail Testing and Waveform Limit testing using masks can be performed. Test conditions can be expressed as either waveform parameter limits, waveform shape limits (mask) or a combination of both. Any failure can cause preprogrammed actions such as Hardcopy, Save, GPIB service request, logic pulse out, audible beep, or any combination of the above.

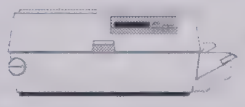
Interfacing





Remote Control: By GPIB and RS-232-C for all front-panel controls, internal functions
RS-232-C Port: Asynchronous up to 115.2 Kb/s for computer or terminal control, or printer or plotter connection
GPIB Port: (IEEE-488.1) Configurable as talker/listener for computer control and fast data transfer; command language compliant with IEEE-488.2
Centronics Port: Hardcopy interface
PC Card (PCMCIA I/II/III Ports): Optional for memory cards, flash cards and removable hard disks
Floppy Disk: High density 3.5-inch floppy disk drive (DOS format)
VGA Compatible Display: 15-pin D-type VGA compatible connector for external color display
Hardcopy: TIFF and BMP formats available for import to Desktop Publishing programs; HPGL protocol for vectorial screen files
Printers and Plotters:

- **B/W Printers:** HP LaserJet™, HP DeskJet™ 500, Epson™ FX
- **Color Printers:** HP DeskJet™ 550C; Epson™ Stylus; Canon 200, 600, 800 Series
- **Plotters:** HP 7470, HP 7550
- **Internal**, high-resolution graphics printer standard or optional depending on model; stripchart output format with 2 m per division also available



Output Formats: Binary, or ASCII waveform output compatible with spreadsheets, MATLAB™, MathCad™

General

Auto-calibration: Ensures specified DC and timing accuracy
Temperature: 5 to 40 °C (41 to 104 °F)
Humidity: 80 % non-condensing
Altitude:

- < 2000 m (6560 ft)
- **LC564 LC584 Series:** < 4600 m (15 090 ft)

Shock and Vibration: Conforms to selected sections of MIL-PRF-28800F, Class 3
Power: 90–132 V AC, 180–250 V AC, 45–66 Hz, 400 W
Battery Backup: Front-panel settings maintained for two years
Dimensions: (HWD) 10.4 x 15.65x 17.85 inches / 264 x 397 x 453 mm

Weight: 20 kg (44 lb.) net, 28 kg (61.6 lb.) shipping
Warranty: Three years

Conformity

EMC: Conforms to EN50081-1 (Emissions), EN 50082-1 (Immunity)
Safety: Designed to comply with EN 61010-1; UL and cUL listed, File E 170588: Protection Category I, Installation (Over-Voltage) Category II, Pollution Degree 2
See Declaration of Conformity for further details.

Enhanced Resolution Filtering

The available sampling rate of LeCroy oscilloscopes is often higher than that required for the analyzed signal's bandwidth. Oversampling, particularly pronounced in the long-memory models, can be used to increase the displayed trace's effective resolution: the ability of the instrument to distinguish closely spaced voltage levels. This is done by filtering the digitized signal using Enhanced Resolution.

Although similar to signal smoothing using a simple moving-average filter, enhanced resolution filtering is more efficient both in terms of bandwidth and the superior passband characteristics that result. And on waveforms with single-shot characteristics, it can be used instead of successive trace averaging.

Advantages

Enhanced resolution filtering improves two important characteristics of the oscilloscope.

Resolution is improved by a fixed amount for each filter. This true increase in resolution occurs whether or not the signal is noisy, or whether a single-shot or repetitive signal.

Signal–to–noise ratio (SNR) is improved in such a way as to be dependent on the form of the noise in the original signal. This is because the enhanced resolution filtering decreases the bandwidth of the signal, therefore filtering out some of the noise.

Implementation

The oscilloscope's set of constant-phase, FIR (Finite Impulse-Response filters provide fast computation, excellent step response in 0.5 bit steps, and minimum bandwidth reduction for resolution improvements of between 0.5 and 3 bits. Each step corresponds to a bandwidth reduction of a factor of two, allowing easy control of the bandwidth/resolution trade-off. The parameters of the six filters are given in the following table:

FIR Enhanced-Resolution-Filter Parameters		
Resolution Increase (Enhancement)	–3 dB Bandwidth (× Nyquist)	Filter Length (Samples)
0.5	0.5	2
1.0	0.241	5
1.5	0.121	10
2.0	0.058	24
2.5	0.029	51
3.0	0.016	117

With low-pass filters, the actual SNR increase obtained in any particular situation depends on the power spectral density of the noise on the signal. The improvement in SNR corresponds to the improvement in resolution if the noise in the signal is white — that is, if it is evenly distributed across the frequency spectrum. If the noise power is biased towards high frequencies, the SNR improvement will be better than the resolution improvement. Whereas the opposite may be true if the noise is mostly at lower frequencies.

SNR improvement due to the removal of coherent noise signals —feed-through of clock signals, for example — is decided by the fall of the dominant frequency components of the signal in the passband. This is easily ascertained using Spectral Analysis.

The filters have a precisely constant zero phase response. This has two desirable properties. First, the filters do not distort the relative position of different events in the waveform, even if the events' frequency content is different. And second, because the waveforms are stored, the delay normally associated with filtering (between the input and output waveforms) can be exactly compensated during the computation of the filtered waveform.

All the filters have been given exact unity gain at low frequency. Enhanced resolution should thus not cause overflow if the source data is not overflowed. If part of the source trace were to overflow, filtering would be allowed, but the results in the vicinity of the overflowed data — the filter impulse response length —

would be incorrect. This is because in some circumstances an overflow may be a spike of only one or two samples, and the energy in this spike may not be enough to significantly affect the results. It would then not be desirable to disallow the whole trace.

When to Use It?

In general, enhanced resolution is used to replace the averaging function in situations where the data record has a single-shot or slowly repetitive nature and averaging cannot be used.

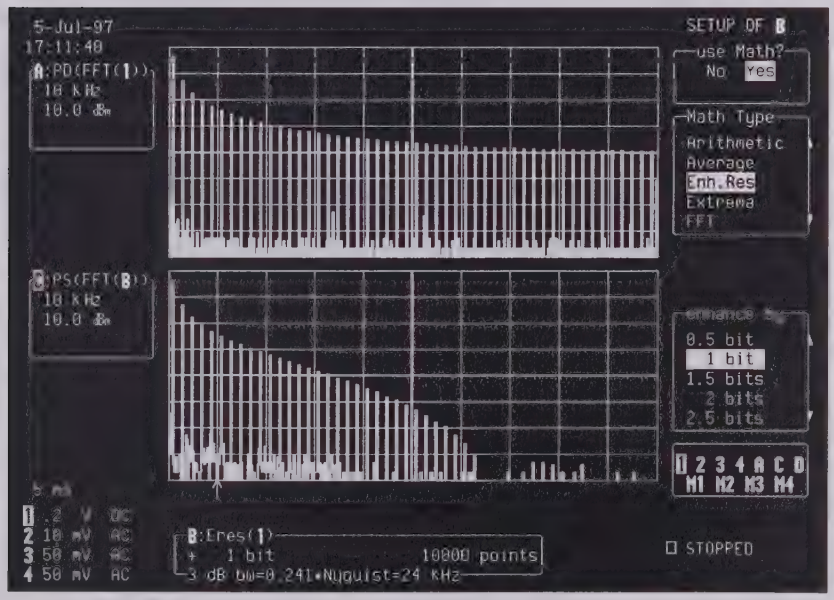
There are two particular situations in which enhanced resolution is especially useful. One is when the signal is noticeably noisy and measurements of the noise are not required. The signal can be "cleaned up" by using the enhanced resolution function. The other is when — even if the signal is not particularly noisy — high-precision measurements of the waveform are required (when using Expand with high vertical gain, for example). Enhanced resolution will then increase the resolution of the measurements.

The examples on the following pages illustrate how enhanced resolution can be used.

Examples

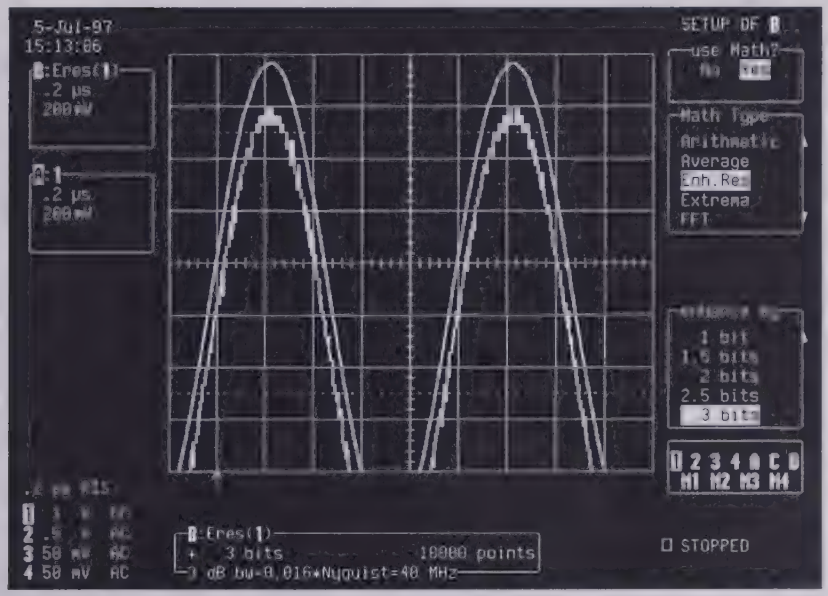
Low-pass Filtering

This screen shows the spectrum of a square signal before (top grid) and after (bottom grid) enhanced resolution processing. The result clearly illustrates how the filter rejects high-frequency components from the signal. The higher the bit enhancement, the lower the resulting bandwidth.



Increasing Vertical Resolution

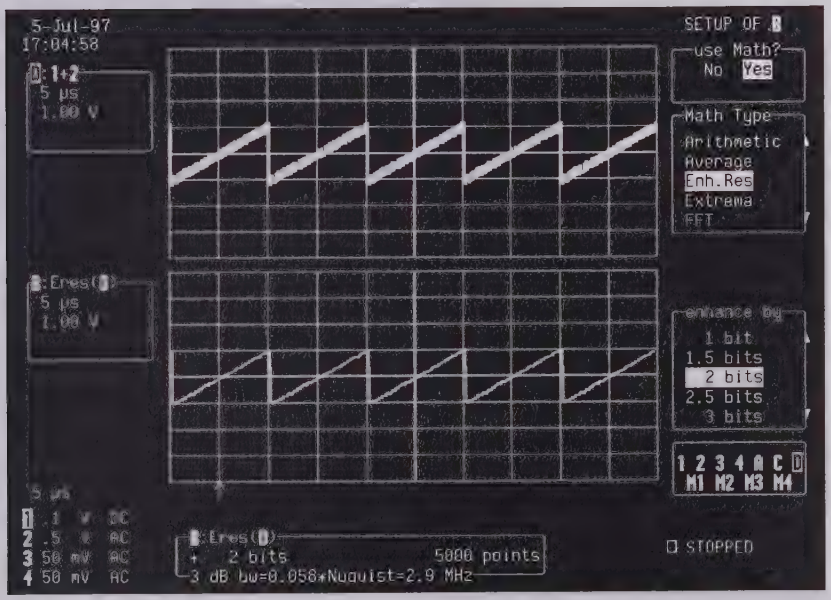
In this example the bottom trace has been significantly enhanced by a three-bit enhanced resolution function.



***Note:** The original signal being highly oversampled, the resulting bandwidth is still high enough for the signal not to be distorted.*

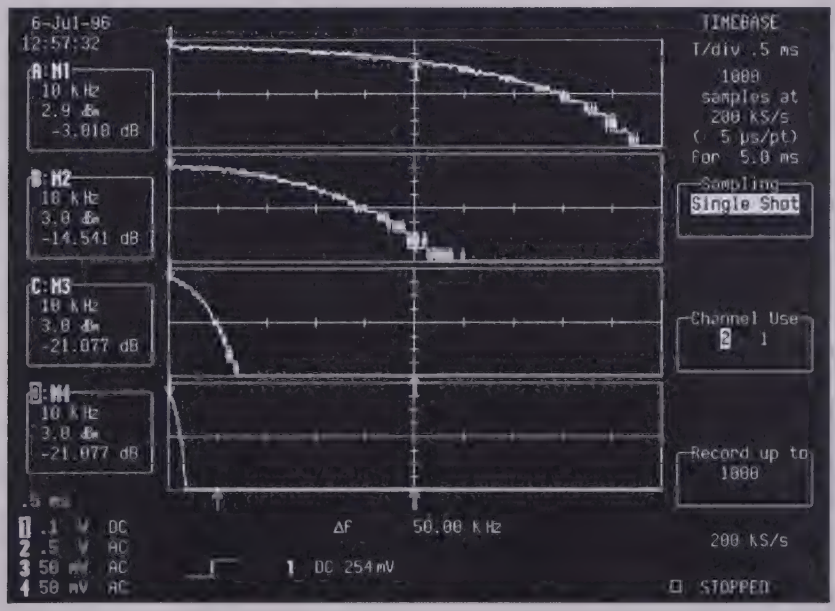
Reducing Noise

The following illustration shows the effect of enhanced resolution on a noisy signal. The original trace (top grid) has been processed by a two-bit enhanced resolution filter. The result (bottom grid) shows a "smooth" trace, where most of the noise has been eliminated.



Cautionary Notes

- *The enhanced resolution function can only improve the resolution of a trace; it cannot improve the accuracy or linearity of the original quantization by the eight-bit ADC.*
- *The constraint of good temporal response excludes the use of maximally-flat filters. The pass-band will therefore cause signal attenuation for signals near the cut-off frequency. The highest frequencies passed may be slightly attenuated. The frequency response of a typical enhanced resolution filter (the 2-bit enhancement filter) is illustrated below, indicating the –3 dB cut-off frequency of 5.8% of the Nyquist frequency.*
- *The filtering must be performed on finite record lengths: data will lost at the start and end of the waveform, so that the trace becomes slightly shorter after filtering.*
- *The number of samples lost is exactly equal to the length of the impulse response of the filter used, and thus varies between two and 117 samples. Owing to the oscilloscope's very long waveform memories, this loss — just 0.2% of a 50 000 point trace — is not normally noticed. However, it is possible to demand filtering on a record so short, there would be no data output, and in this case the scope will not allow filtering.*



When and How to Use FFT

The WP02 Spectral Analysis package, with FFT (Fast Fourier Transform), reveals signal characteristics not visible in the time domain and adds the power of frequency domain analysis to your oscilloscope. FFT converts a time domain waveform into frequency domain spectra similar to those of a spectrum analyzer, but with important differences and added benefits.

Why Use FFT?

For a large class of signals, greater insight can be gained by looking at spectral representation rather than time description. Signals encountered in the frequency response of amplifiers, oscillator phase noise and those in mechanical vibration analysis — to mention just some applications — are easier to observe in the frequency domain.

If sampling is done at a rate fast enough to faithfully approximate the original waveform (usually five times the highest frequency component in the signal), the resulting discrete data series will uniquely describe the analog signal.

This is of particular value when dealing with transient signals because, unlike FFT, conventional swept spectrum analyzers cannot handle them.

Theory Behind FFT

Spectral analysis theory assumes that the signal for transformation be of infinite duration. Since no physical signal can meet this condition, a useful assumption for reconciling theory and practice is to view the signal as consisting of an infinite series of replica of itself. These replica are multiplied by a rectangular window (the display grid) that is zero outside of the observation grid.

- ***For an explanation of FFT terms: see the Glossary on page C–17***
- ***Using FFT Functions: see page C–9***
- ***FFT Algorithms: page C–14***

Figure C–1 shows spectra of a swept triangular wave. Discontinuities at the edges of the wave produce leakage, an effect clearly visible in Trace A, which was computed with a rectangular window, but less pronounced in the Von Hann window in Trace B (*see below for leakage and window-type explanations*). Histogramming in Trace C tracks the spread of the first harmonic.

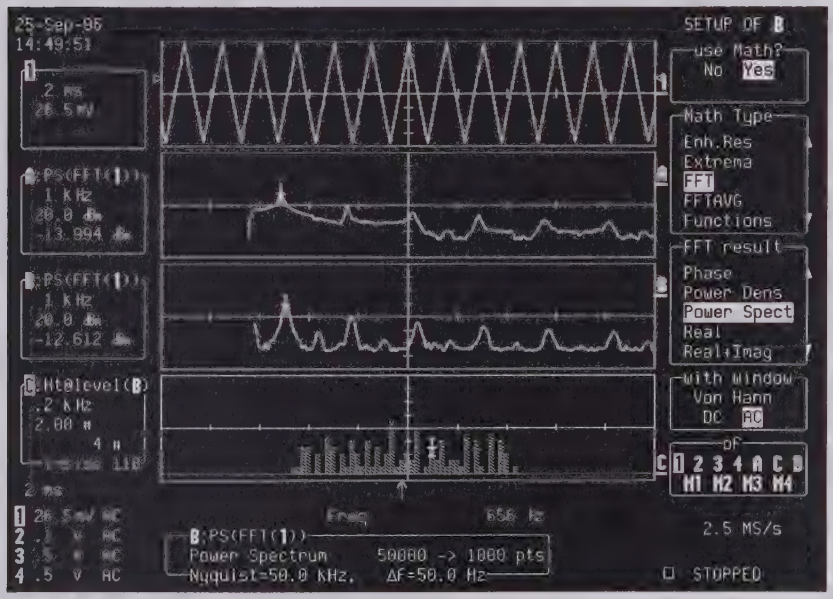


Figure C–1

Slicing the waveform in the fashion described above is tantamount to diluting the spectral energy in an infinite number of side lobes, which correspond to multiples of the frequency resolution Δf (*Fig. C–2*). The observation window or capture time T determines the frequency resolution of the FFT ($\Delta f=1/T$). Whereas the sampling period and the record length set the maximum frequency span that can be obtained ($f_{Nyq}=\Delta f*N/2$).

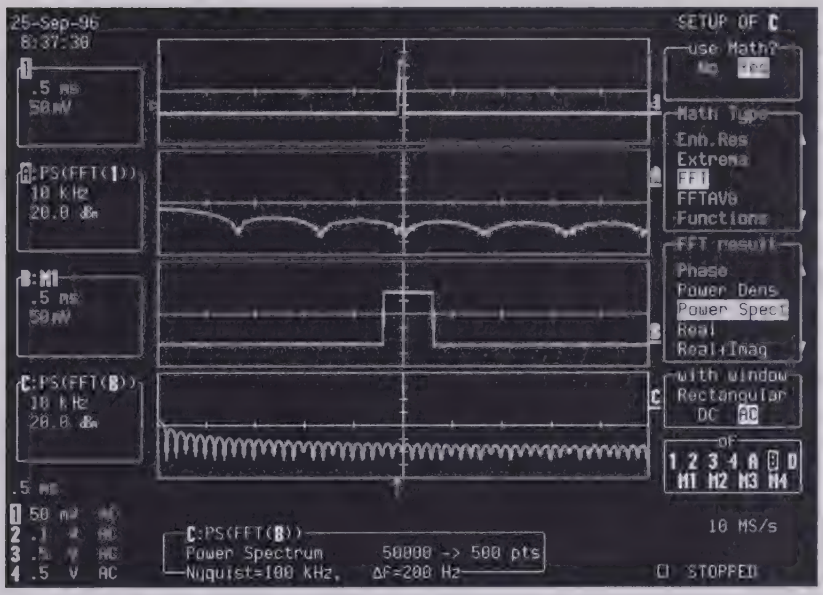


Figure C–2

An FFT operation on an N point time-domain signal may thus be compared to passing the signal through a comb filter consisting of a bank of N/2 filters. All the filters have the same shape and width and are centered at N/2 discrete frequencies. Each filter collects the signal energy that falls into the immediate neighborhood of its center frequency. Thus it can be said that there are N/2 frequency bins. The distance in Hz between the center frequencies of two neighboring bins is always the same: Δf.

Power (Density) Spectrum Because of the linear scale used to show magnitudes, lower amplitude components are often hidden by larger components. In addition to the functions offering magnitude and phase representations, the FFT option offers power density and power spectrum density functions, selected from the "FFT result" menu shown in the figures. These latter functions are even better suited for characterizing spectra. The power spectrum (V^2) is the square of the magnitude spectrum (0 dB m corresponds to voltage equivalent to 1 mW into 50 Ω.) This is the representation

of choice for signals containing isolated peaks — periodic signals, for instance.

The power density spectrum (V^2/Hz) is the power spectrum divided by the equivalent noise bandwidth of the filter in Hz associated with the FFT calculation. This is best employed for characterizing broad-band signals such as noise.

Memory for FFT

The amount of acquisition memory available will determine the maximum range (Nyquist frequency) over which signal components can be observed. Consider the problem of determining the length of the observation window and the size of the acquisition buffer if a Nyquist rate of 500 MHz and a resolution of 10 kHz are required. To obtain a resolution of 10 kHz, the acquisition time must be at least:

$$T = 1/\Delta f = 1/10 \text{ kHz} = 100 \ \mu s.$$

For a digital oscilloscope with a memory of 100 k, the highest frequency that can be analyzed is:

$$\Delta f \times N/2 = 10 \text{ kHz} \times 100 \text{ k}/2 = 500 \text{ MHz}.$$

FFT Pitfalls to Avoid

Take care to ensure that signals are correctly acquired: improper waveform positioning within the observation window produces a distorted spectrum. The most common distortions can be traced to insufficient sampling, edge discontinuities, windowing or the "picket fence" effect.

Because the FFT acts like a bank of bandpass filters centered at multiples of the frequency resolution, components that are not exact multiples of that frequency will fall within two consecutive filters. This results in an attenuation of the true amplitude of these components.

Picket Fence and Scallop

The highest point in the spectrum can be 3.92 dB lower when the source frequency is halfway between two discrete frequencies. This variation in spectrum magnitude is the picket fence effect. And the corresponding attenuation loss is referred to as scallop loss. LeCroy scopes automatically correct for the scallop effect, ensuring that the magnitude of the spectra lines correspond to their true values in the time domain.

If a signal contains a frequency component above Nyquist, the spectrum will be aliased, meaning that the frequencies will be folded back and spurious. Spotting aliased frequencies is often difficult, as the aliases may ride on top of real harmonics. A simple way of checking is to modify the sample rate and verify whether the frequency distribution changes.

Leakage

FFT assumes that the signal contained within the time grid is replicated endlessly outside the observation window. Therefore if the signal contains discontinuities at its edges, pseudo-frequencies will appear in the spectral domain, distorting the real spectrum. When the start and end phase of the signal differ, the signal frequency falls within two frequency cells broadening the spectrum.

This effect is illustrated in Figure C–1. Because the display does not contain an integral number of periods, the spectrum displayed in Trace B does not reveal sharp frequency components. Intermediate components exhibit a lower and broader peak. The broadening of the base, stretching out in many neighboring bins, is termed leakage. Cures for this are to ensure that an integral number of periods is contained within the display grid or that no discontinuities appear at the edges. Another is to use a window function to smooth the edges of the signal.

Choosing a Window

The choice of a spectral window is dictated by the signal's characteristics. Weighting functions control the filter response shape and affect noise bandwidth as well as side-lobe levels. Ideally, the main lobe should be as narrow and flat as possible to effectively discriminate all spectral components, while all side lobes should be infinitely attenuated.

Chosen from the "with window" menu, the window type defines the bandwidth and shape of the equivalent filter to be used in the FFT processing.

In the same way as one would choose a particular camera lens for taking a picture, some experimenting is generally necessary to determine which window is most suitable. However, the following general guidelines should help (*see page C–11 for window types*).

Rectangular windows provide the highest frequency resolution and are thus useful for estimating the type of harmonics present in the signal. Because the rectangular window decays as a sinx/x function in the spectral domain, slight attenuation will be induced. Alternative functions with less attenuation — Flat-top and Blackman-Harris — provide maximum amplitude at the expense of frequency resolution. Whereas, Hamming and von Hann are good for general purpose use with continuous waveforms.

Improving Dynamic Range

Enhanced resolution (*see Appendix B*) uses a low pass filtering technique that can potentially provide for three additional bits (18 dBs) if the signal noise is uniformly distributed (white). Low pass filtering should be considered when high frequency components are irrelevant. A distinct advantage of this technique is that it works for both repetitive and transient signals. The SNR increase is conditioned by the cut-off frequency of the Eres low pass filter and the noise shape (frequency distribution).

LeCroy digital oscilloscopes employ FIR digital filters so that a constant phase shift is maintained. The phase information is therefore not distorted by the filtering action.

Spectral Power Averaging

Even greater dynamic-range improvement is obtained on signals showing periodicity. Moreover, the range can be increased without sacrificing frequency response. The LeCroy oscilloscope being used is equipped with accumulation buffers 32 bits wide to prevent overflows.

Spectral power averaging is useful when the signal varies in time and the mean power of the signal needs to be estimated. Typical applications include noise and pseudo- random noise. Whereas time averaging ignores phase information, spectral averaging tracks magnitude as well as phase information. It is thus a superior estimator. And the improvement is typically proportional to the square root of the number of averages. For instance, averaging white noise at full scale over 10 sweeps yields a typical improvement of nearly 20 dBs.

Spectral power averaging is the technique of choice when determining the frequency response of passive networks such as filters. Figures 3 and 4 show the transfer functions of a low pass filter with a 3 dB cutoff o1 11 MHz obtained by exciting the filter with a white noise source (*Fig. C–3*) and a sine swept generator (*Fig. C–4*). Both techniques give substantially the same results. The choice of method is governed by the availability of an adequate generating source.

The spectra of single time-domain waveforms can be computed and displayed to obtain power averages obtained over as many as 50 000 spectra.

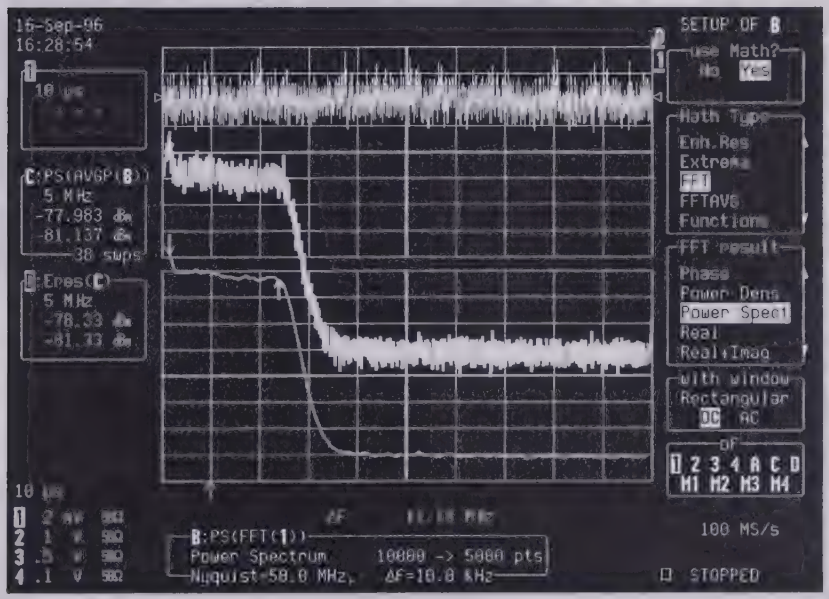


Figure C–3

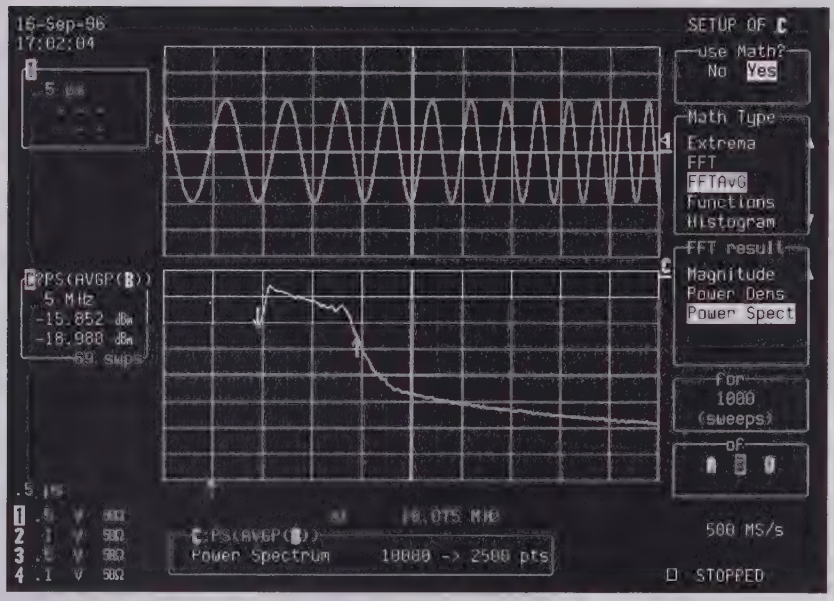


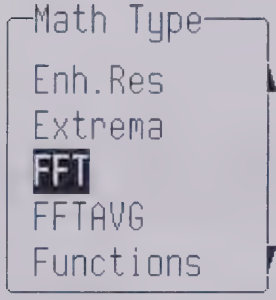
Figure C–4

Overall...

Because of its versatility, FFT analysis has become a popular analysis tool. However, some care must be taken with it. In most instances, incorrect positioning of the signal within the display grid will significantly alter the spectrum. Effects such as leakage and aliasing that distort the spectrum must be understood if meaningful conclusions are to be arrived at when using FFT.

An effective way to reduce these effects is to maximize the acquisition record length. Record length directly conditions the effective sampling rate of the scope and therefore determines the frequency resolution and span at which spectral analysis can be carried out.

Using FFT Functions



Select "FFT" from the "Math Type" menu (*see Chapter 10 for a full description of math and waveform processing menus*). Spectra displayed with a linear frequency axis running from zero to the Nyquist frequency are shown at the right-hand edge of the trace. The frequency scale factors (Hz/div) are in a 1–2–5 sequence.

The processing equation is displayed at the bottom of the screen, together with the three key parameters that characterize an FFT spectrum. These are:

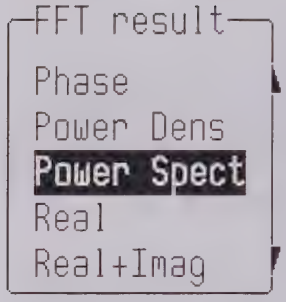
1. Transform Size N (number of input points)
2. Nyquist frequency (= ½ sample rate), and
3. Frequency Increment, Δf, between two successive points of the spectrum.

These parameters are related as:

$$\text{Nyquist frequency} = \Delta f * N/2.$$

Where: $\Delta f = 1/T$, and where T is the duration of the input waveform record (10 * time/div). The number of output points is equal to N/2.

Noteo ot: ***FFT spectra are computed over the entire source time-domain waveform. This limits the number of points used for FFT processing. If the input waveform contains more points than the selected maximum (in "for Math use max points", they are decimated before FFT processing. But if it has fewer, all points are used.***



The following selections can be made using the "FFT result" menu.

Phase

Measured with respect to a cosine whose maximum occurs at the left-hand edge of the screen, at which point it has 0 °. Similarly, a positive-going sine starting at the left-hand edge of the screen has a –90 ° phase. (Displayed in degrees.)

Power Density

The signal power normalized to the bandwidth of the equivalent filter associated with the FFT calculation. The power density is suitable for characterizing broad-band noise. (It is displayed on a logarithmic vertical axis calibrated in dBm.)

Power Spectrum

The signal power (or magnitude) represented on a logarithmic vertical scale: 0 dBm corresponds to the voltage (0.316 V peak) which is equivalent to 1 mW into 50 Ω. The power spectrum is suitable for characterizing spectra which contain isolated peaks. (dBm.)

Magnitude

The peak signal amplitude represented on a linear scale. (Same units as input signal.)

Real, Real + Imaginary, Imaginary

These represent the complex result of the FFT processing. (Same units as input signal.)

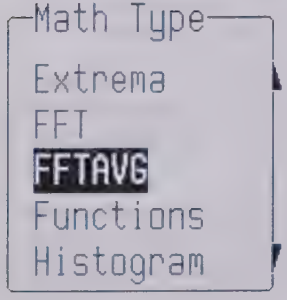
Windows

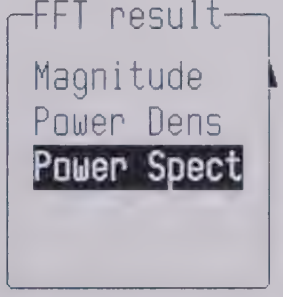
Chosen using the "with window" menu, the window type defines the bandwidth and shape of the filter to be used in the FFT processing (*see the table on page C–17 for these filters' parameters*). When "AC" is selected from the same menu, the DC component of the input signal is forced to zero prior to the FFT processing. This improves the amplitude resolution, especially when the input has a large DC component.

Window Type	Applications and Limitations
Rectangular	Normally used when the signal is transient — completely contained in the time-domain window — or known to have a fundamental frequency component that is an integer multiple of the fundamental frequency of the window. Signals other than these types will show varying amounts of spectral leakage and scallop loss, corrected by selecting another type of window.
Hanning (Von Hann)	Reduce leakage and improve amplitude accuracy. However, frequency resolution is also reduced.
Hamming	Reduce leakage and improve amplitude accuracy. However, frequency resolution is also reduced.
Flat Top	This window provides excellent amplitude accuracy with moderate reduction of leakage, but also at the loss of frequency resolution.
Blackman–Harris	It reduces the leakage to a minimum, but again along with reduced frequency resolution.

FFT Power Average

A function can be defined as the power average of FFT spectra computed by another function (*see page C–6*). Choose "FFTAVG" from the "Math Type" Menu, and "Power Spect" from "FFT Result".





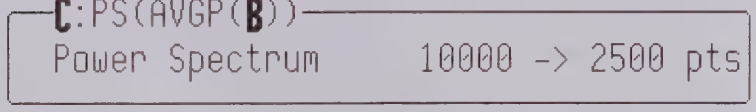
Additional Processing

Other waveform processing functions, such as Averaging and Arithmetic, can be applied to waveforms before FFT processing is performed. Time-domain averaging prior to FFT, for example, can be used if a stable trigger is available to reduce random noise in the signal.

> ***Note:***
>
> - ***To increase the FFT frequency range, the Nyquist frequency, raise the effective sampling frequency by increasing the maximum number of points or using a faster time base.***
> - ***To increase the FFT frequency resolution, increase the length of the time-domain waveform record by using a slower time base.***

Memory Status

When FFT is used, the field beneath the grid displays parameters of the waveform descriptor, including number of points, horizontal and vertical scale factors and units.



Using Cursors with FFT

For reading the amplitude and frequency of a data point, the Absolute Time cursor can be moved into the frequency domain by going beyond the right-hand edge of a time-domain waveform.

The Relative Time cursors can be moved into the frequency domain to simultaneously indicate the frequency difference and the amplitude difference between two points on each frequency-domain trace.

The Absolute Voltage cursor reads the absolute value of a point in a spectrum in the appropriate units, and the *Relative Voltage* cursors indicate the difference between two levels on each trace

Error Messages

One of these FFT-related error messages may be displayed at the top of the screen.

Error Messages

Message	Meaning
"Incompatible input record type"	FFT power average is defined only on a function defined as FFT.
"Horizontal units don't match"	FFT of a frequency-domain waveform is not available.
"FFT source data zero filled"	If there are invalid data points in the source waveform (at the beginning or at the end of the record), these are replaced by zeros before FFT processing.
"FFT source data over/underflow"	The source waveform data has been clipped in amplitude, either in the acquisition — gain too high or inappropriate offset — or in previous processing. The resulting FFT contains harmonic components which would not be present in the unclipped waveform. The settings defining the acquisition or processing should be changed to eliminate the over/underflow condition.
"Circular computation"	A function definition is circular (i.e. the function is its own source, indirectly via another function or expansion). One of the definitions should be changed.

FFT Algorithms

A summary of the algorithms used in the oscilloscope's FFT computation is given here in the form of seven steps:

1. If the maximum number of points is smaller than the source number of points, the source waveform data are decimated prior to the FFT. These decimated data extend over the full length of the source waveform. The resulting sampling interval and the actual transform size selected provide the frequency scale factor in a 1–2–5 sequence.
2. The data are multiplied by the selected window function.
3. FFT is computed, using a fast implementation of the DFT (Discrete Fourier Transform):

$$X_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{k=N-1} x_k \times W^{nk},$$

where: x_k is a complex array whose real part is the modified source time domain waveform, and whose imaginary part is 0; X_n is the resulting complex frequency-domain waveform; $W = e^{-2\pi j/N}$; and N is the number of points in x_k and X_n.

The generalized FFT algorithm, as implemented here, works on N, which need *not* be a power of 2.

4. The resulting complex vector X_n is divided by the coherent gain of the window function, in order to compensate for the loss of the signal energy due to windowing. This compensation provides accurate amplitude values for isolated spectrum peaks.
5. The real part of X_n is symmetric around the Nyquist frequency, i.e.

$$R_n = R_{N-n},$$

while the imaginary part is asymmetric, i.e.

$$I_n = -I_{N-n}.$$

The energy of the signal at a frequency *n* is distributed equally between the first and the second halves of the spectrum; the energy at frequency 0 is completely contained in the 0 term.

The first half of the spectrum (Re, Im), from 0 to the Nyquist frequency is kept for further processing and doubled in amplitude:

$$R'_n = 2 \cdot R_n \qquad 0 \le n < N/2$$

$$I'_n = 2 \cdot I_n \qquad 0 \le n < N/2.$$

6. The resultant waveform is computed for the spectrum type selected.

   If "Real", "Imaginary", or "Real + Imaginary" is selected, no further computation is needed. The appropriate part of the complex result is given as the result (R'_n or I'_n or $R'_n + jI'_n$, as defined above).

   If "Magnitude" is selected, the magnitude of the complex vector is computed as:

$$M_n = \sqrt{R'^2_n + I'^2_n}\,.$$

Steps 1–6 lead to the following result:

An AC sine wave of amplitude 1.0 V with an integral number of periods Np in the time window, transformed with the rectangular window, results in a fundamental peak of 1.0 V magnitude in the spectrum at frequency Np × Δf. However, a DC component of 1.0 V, transformed with the rectangular window, results in a peak of 2.0 V magnitude at 0 Hz.

The waveforms for the other available spectrum types are computed as follows:

Phase: angle = arctan (I_n/R_n) $\quad M_n > M_{min}$

angle = 0 $\quad M_n \le M_{min}$.

Where M_{min} is the minimum magnitude, fixed at about 0.001 of the full scale at any gain setting, below which the angle is not well defined.

The dBm Power Spectrum:

$$dBm\ PS = 10 \times \log_{10}\left(\frac{M_n^2}{M_{ref}^2}\right) = 20 \times \log_{10}\left(\frac{M_n}{M_{ref}}\right)$$

where M_{ref} = 0.316 V (that is, 0 dBm is defined as a sine wave of 0.316 V peak or 0.224 V RMS, giving 1.0 mW into 50Ω).

The dBm Power Spectrum is the same as dBm Magnitude, as suggested in the above formula.

dBm Power Density:

$$dBm\,PD = dBm\,PS - 10 \times \log_{10}\ \left(ENBW \times \Delta f\right)$$

where *ENBW* is the equivalent noise bandwidth of the filter corresponding to the selected window, and Δf is the current frequency resolution (bin width).

7. The FFT Power Average takes the complex frequency-domain data R'_n and I'_n for each spectrum generated in Step 5, and computes the square of the magnitude:

   $$M_n^2 = R'^2_n + I'^2_n,$$

   then sums M_n^2 and counts the accumulated spectra. The total is normalized by the number of spectra and converted to the selected result type using the same formulae as are used for the Fourier Transform.

Glossary

Defines the terms frequently used in FFT spectrum analysis and relates them to the oscilloscope.

Aliasing

If the input signal to a sampling acquisition system contains components whose frequency is greater than the Nyquist frequency (half the sampling frequency), there will be less than two samples per signal period. The result is that the contribution of these components to the sampled waveform is indistinguishable from that of components below the Nyquist frequency. This is **aliasing**.

The timebase and transform-size should be selected so that the resulting Nyquist frequency is higher than the highest significant component in the time-domain record.

Coherent Gain

The normalized coherent gain of a filter corresponding to each window function is 1.0 (0 dB) for a rectangular window and less than 1.0 for other windows. It defines the loss of signal energy due to the multiplication by the window function. This loss is compensated in the oscilloscope. This table lists the values for the implemented windows.

Window Frequency-Domain Parameters

Window Type	Highest Side Lobe (dB)	Scallop Loss (dB)	ENBW (bins)	Coherent Gain (dB)
Rectangular	–13	3.92	1.0	0.0
von Hann	–32	1.42	1.5	– 6.02
Hamming	–43	1.78	1.37	–5.35
Flat Top	–44	0.01	2.96	–11.05
Blackman–Harris	–67	1.13	1.71	–7.53

ENBW

Equivalent Noise BandWidth (ENBW) is the bandwidth of a rectangular filter (same gain at the center frequency), equivalent to a filter associated with each frequency bin, which would collect the same power from a white noise signal. In the table on the previous page, the ENBW is listed for each window function implemented and is given in bins.

Filters

Computing an N-point FFT is equivalent to passing the time-domain input signal through N/2 filters and plotting their outputs against the frequency. The spacing of filters is $\Delta f = 1/T$ while the bandwidth depends on the window function used (see Frequency bins).

Frequency bins

The FFT algorithm takes a discrete source waveform, defined over N points, and computes N complex Fourier coefficients, which are interpreted as harmonic components of the input signal.

For a real source waveform (imaginary part equals 0), there are only N/2 independent harmonic components.

An FFT corresponds to analyzing the input signal with a bank of N/2 filters, all having the same shape and width, and centered at N/2 discrete frequencies. Each filter collects the signal energy that falls into the immediate neighborhood of its center frequency, and thus it can be said that there are N/2 "frequency bins".

The distance in hertz between the center frequencies of two neighboring bins is always:

$$\Delta f = 1/T,$$

where T is the duration of the time-domain record in seconds.

The width of the main lobe of the filter centered at each bin depends on the window function used. The rectangular window has a nominal width at 1.0 bin. Other windows have wider main lobes (*see table*).

Frequency Range

The range of frequencies computed and displayed is 0 Hz (displayed at the left-hand edge of the screen) to the Nyquist frequency (at the rightmost edge of the trace).

Frequency Resolution

In a simple sense, the frequency resolution is equal to the bin width Δf. That is, if the input signal changes its frequency by Δf, the corresponding spectrum peak will be displaced by Δf. For smaller changes of frequency, only the shape of the peak will change.

However, the effective frequency resolution (i.e. the ability to resolve two signals whose frequencies are almost the same) is further limited by the use of window functions. The ENBW value of all windows other than the rectangular is greater than Δf and the bin width. *The table on page C–17 lists the ENBW values for the implemented windows.*

Leakage

In the power spectrum of a sine wave with an integral number of periods in the (rectangular) time window (i.e. the source frequency equals one of the bin frequencies), the spectrum contains a sharp component whose value accurately reflects the source waveform's amplitude. For intermediate input frequencies this spectral component has a lower and broader peak.

The broadening of the base of the peak, stretching out into many neighboring bins is termed *leakage*. It is due to the relatively high side lobes of the filter associated with each frequency bin.

The filter side lobes and the resulting leakage are reduced when one of the available window functions is applied. The best reduction is provided by the Blackman–Harris and Flat Top windows. However, this reduction is offset by a broadening of the main lobe of the filter.

Number of Points

FFT is computed over the number of points (Transform Size) whose upper bounds are the source number of points, and by the maximum number of points selected in the menu. FFT generates spectra of N/2 output points.

Nyquist Frequency

The Nyquist frequency is equal to one half of the effective sampling frequency (after the decimation): $\Delta f \times N/2$.

Picket Fence Effect

If a sine wave has a whole number of periods in the time domain record, the power spectrum obtained with a rectangular window will have a sharp peak, corresponding exactly to the frequency and amplitude of the sine wave. Otherwise the spectrum peak with a rectangular window will be lower and broader.

The highest point in the power spectrum can be 3.92 dB lower (1.57 times) when the source frequency is halfway between two

discrete bin frequencies. This variation of the spectrum magnitude is called the *picket fence effect* (the loss is called the scallop loss).

All window functions compensate this loss to some extent, but the best compensation is obtained with the Flat Top window.

Power Spectrum

The power spectrum (V^2) is the square of the magnitude spectrum.

The power spectrum is displayed on the dBm scale, with 0 dBm corresponding to:

$$Vref^2 = (0.316\ Vpeak)^2,$$

where Vref is the peak value of the sinusoidal voltage, which is equivalent to 1 mW into 50 Ω.

Power Density Spectrum

The power density spectrum (V^2/Hz) is the power spectrum divided by the equivalent noise bandwidth of the filter in hertz. The power density spectrum is displayed on the dBm scale, with 0 dBm corresponding to ($Vref^2/Hz$).

Sampling Frequency

The time-domain records are acquired at sampling frequencies dependent on the selected time base. Before the FFT computation, the time-domain record may be decimated. If the selected maximum number of points is lower than the source number of points, the effective sampling frequency is reduced. The effective sampling frequency equals twice the Nyquist frequency.

Scallop Loss

Loss associated with the picket fence effect.

Window Functions

All available window functions belong to the sum of cosines family with one to three non-zero cosine terms:

$$W_k = \sum_{m=0}^{m=M-1} a_m \cos\left(\frac{2\,p\,k}{N} m\right) \qquad 0 \le k < N,$$

where: $M = 3$ is the maximum number of terms, a_m are the coefficients of the terms, N is the number of points of the decimated source waveform, and k is the time index.

The following table lists the coefficients a_m. The window functions seen in the time domain are symmetric around the point k = N/2.

Coefficients Of Window Functions

Window Type	a0	a1	a2
Rectangular	1.0	0.0	0.0
von Hann	0.5	–0.5	0.0
Hamming	0.54	–0.46	0.0
Flat-Top	0.281	–0.521	0.198
Blackman-Harris	0.423	–0.497	0.079

Appendix C References

Bergland, G.D., *A Guided Tour of the Fast Fourier Transform*, IEEE Spectrum, July 1969, pp. 41–52.
A general introduction to FFT theory and applications.

Brigham, E.O., *The Fast Fourier Transform*, Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1974.
Theory, applications and implementation of FFT. Includes discussion of FFT algorithms for N not a power of 2.

Harris, F.J., *On the Use of Windows for Harmonic Analysis with the Discrete Fourier Transform*, Proceedings of the IEEE, vol. 66, No. 1, January 1978, pp. 51–83.
Classic paper on window functions and their figures of merit, with many examples of windows.

Ramirez, R.W., *The FFT Fundamentals and Concepts*, Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1985.
Practice-oriented, many examples of applications.

Parameters and How They Work

In this Appendix, a general explanation of how the instrument's standard parameters are computed (*see below*) is followed by a table listing, defining and describing those parameters (*page D–5*).

Determining Top and Base Lines

Proper determination of the *top* and *base* reference lines is fundamental for ensuring correct parameter calculations. The analysis begins by computing a histogram of the waveform data over the time interval spanned by the left and right time cursors. For example, the histogram of a waveform transitioning in two states will contain two peaks (*Fig. D–1*). The analysis will attempt to identify the two clusters that contain the largest data density. Then the most probable state (centroids) associated with these two clusters will be computed to determine the *top* and *base* reference levels: the *top* line corresponds to the top and the *base* line to the bottom centroid.

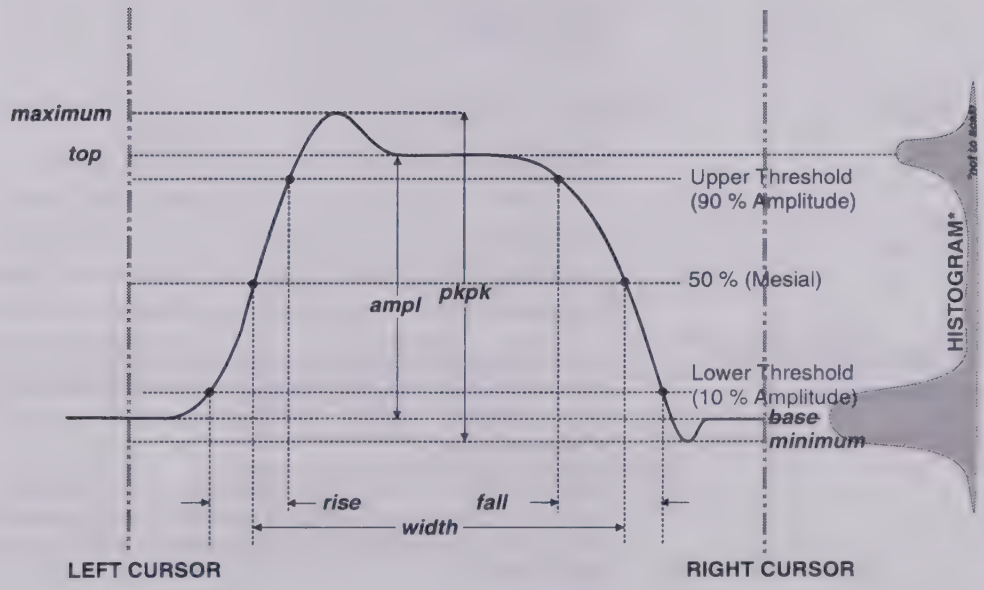


Figure D–1

Determining Rise and Fall Times

Once *top* and *base* are estimated, calculation of the *rise* and *fall* times is easily done (*Fig.1*). The 90 % and 10 % threshold levels are automatically determined by the oscilloscope, using the amplitude (*ampl*) parameter.

Threshold levels for *rise* or *fall* time can also be selected using absolute or relative settings (*r@level, f@level*). If absolute settings are chosen, the *rise* or *fall* time is measured as the time interval separating the two crossing points on a rising or falling edge. But when relative settings are chosen, the vertical interval spanned between the *base* and *top* lines is subdivided into a percentile scale (base = 0 %, top = 100 %) to determine the vertical position of the crossing points.

The time interval separating the points on the rising or falling edges is then estimated to yield the rise or fall time. These results are averaged over the number of transition edges that occur within the observation window.

Rising Edge Duration	$\frac{1}{Mr}\sum_{i=1}^{Mr}\left(Tr_i^{90}-Tr_i^{10}\right)$
Falling Edge Duration	$\frac{1}{Mf}\sum_{i=1}^{Mf}\left(Tf_i^{10}-Tf_i^{90}\right)$

Where *Mr* is the number of leading edges found, *Mf* the number of trailing edges found, Tr_i^x the time when rising edge *i* crosses the x % level, and Tf_i^x the time when falling edge *i* crosses the x % level.

Determining Time Parameters

Time parameter measurements such as *width*, *period* and *delay* are carried out with respect to the mesial reference level (*Fig. D–2*), located halfway (50 %) between the top and base reference lines.

Time-parameter estimation depends on the number of cycles included within the observation window. If the number of cycles is not an integer, parameter measurements such as *rms* or *mean* will be biased.

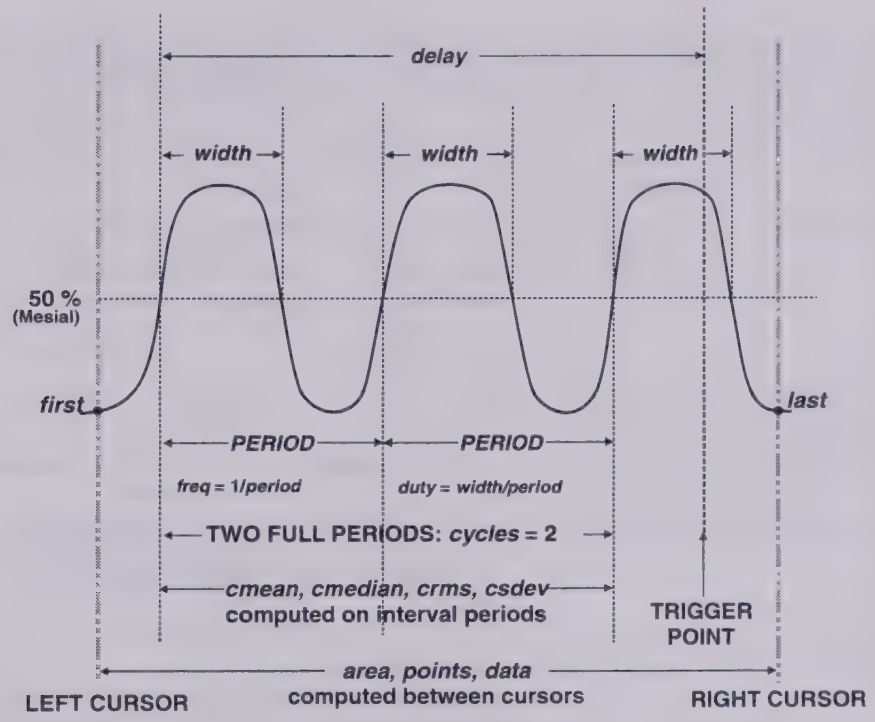


Figure D–2

To avoid these bias effects, the instrument uses cyclic parameters, including *crms* and *cmean*, that restrict the calculation to an integer number of cycles.

Determining Differential Time Measurements

The oscilloscope enables accurate differential time measurements between two traces — for example, propagation, setup and hold delays (*Fig. D–3*).

Parameters such as *Δc2d±* require the transition polarity of the clock and data signals to be specified.

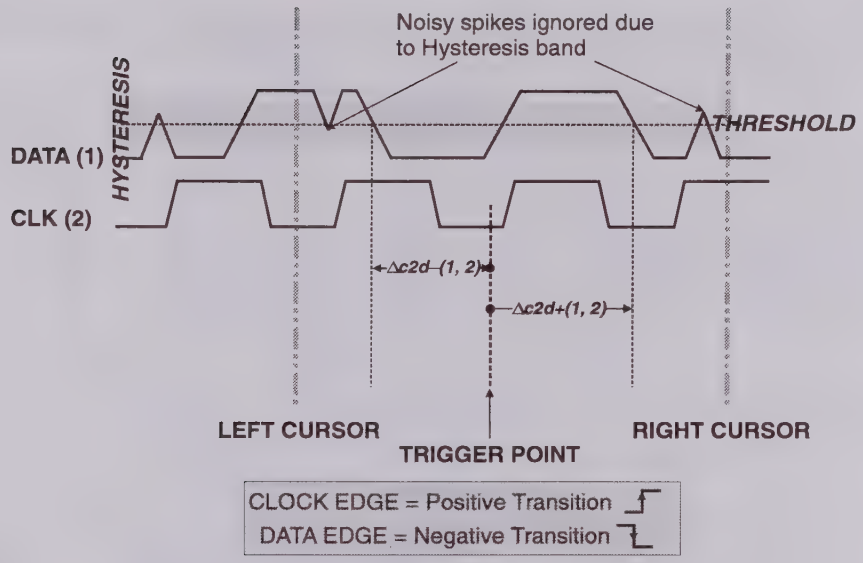


Figure D–3

Moreover, a hysteresis range may be specified to ignore any spurious transition that does not exceed the boundaries of the hysteresis interval. In Figure 3, *Δc2d–* (1, 2) measures the time interval separating the rising edge of the clock (trigger) from the first negative transition of the data signal. Similarly, *Δc2d+* (1, 2) measures the time interval between the trigger and the next transition of the data signal.

Parameter and what it does		Definition	Notes
ampl	Amplitude: Measures difference between upper and lower levels in two-level signals. Differs from *pkpk* in that noise, overshoot, undershoot, and ringing do NOT affect measurement.	*top - base* *(See Fig. D–1)*	*On signals NOT having two major levels (such as triangle or saw-tooth waves), returns same value as* pkpk.
area	Integral of data: Computes area of waveform between cursors relative to zero level. Values greater than zero contribute positively to the area; values less than zero negatively.	Sum from *first* to *last* of data multiplied by horizontal time between points *(See Fig. D–2)*	
base	Lower of two most probable states (higher is *top*). Measures lower level in two-level signals. Differs from *min* in that noise, overshoot, undershoot, and ringing do NOT affect measurement.	Value of most probable lower state *(See Fig. D–1)*	*On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), returns same value as* min.
cycles	Determines number of cycles of a periodic waveform lying between cursors. First cycle begins at first transition after the left cursor. Transition may be positive- or negative-going.	Number of cycles of periodic waveform *(See Fig. D–2)*	
cmean	Cyclic mean: Computes the average of waveform data. Contrary to *mean*, computes average over an integral number of cycles, eliminating bias caused by fractional intervals.	Average of data values of an integral number of periods	
cmedian	Cyclic median: Computes average of base and top values over an integral number of cycles, contrary to *median*, eliminating bias caused by fractional intervals.	Data value for which 50 % of values are above and 50 % below	
crms	Cyclic root mean square: Computes square root of sum of squares of data values divided by number of points. Contrary to *rms*, calculation performed over integral number of cycles, eliminating bias caused by fractional intervals.	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(v_i)^2}$	Where: v_i denotes measured sample values, and N = number of data points within the periods found up to maximum of 100 periods.

Parameter and what it does		Definition	Notes
csdev	Cyclic standard deviation: Standard deviation of data values from mean value over integral number of periods. Contrary to *sdev*, calculation performed over integral number of cycles, eliminating bias caused by fractional intervals.	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(v_i - mean)^2}$	*Where: v_i denotes measured sample values, and N = number of data points within the periods found up to maximum of 100 periods.*
data	Returns average of all data points.	All data values in analyzed region *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Multi-value parameter especially valuable for histograms and trends.*
delay	Time from trigger to transition: Measures time between trigger and first 50 % crossing after left cursor. Can measure propagation delay between two signals by triggering on one and determining delay of other.	Time between trigger and first 50 % crossing after left cursor *(See Fig. D–2)*	
Δdly	Δdelay: Computes time between 50 % level of two sources.	Time between midpoint transition of two sources	
Δt@lv	Δt at level: Computes transition between selected levels or sources.	Time between transition levels of two sources, or from trigger to transition level of a single source	*Reference levels and edge-transition polarity can be selected. Hysteresis argument used to discriminate levels from noise in data.*
Δc2d±	Δclock to data ±: Computes difference in time from clock threshold crossing to either the next (*Δc2d+*) or previous (*Δc2d–*) data threshold crossing.	Time from clock threshold crossing to next or previous edge *(See Fig. D–3)*	*Threshold levels of clock and data signals, and edge-transition polarity can be selected. Hysteresis argument used to differentiate peaks from noise in data, with good hysteresis value between half expected peak–to–peak value of signal and twice expected peak–to–peak value of noise.*

<table>
<tr><th>Parameter and what it does</th><th>Definition</th><th>Notes</th></tr>
<tr><td>dur</td><td>For single sweep waveforms, dur is 0; for sequence waveforms: time from first to last segment's trigger; for single segments of sequence waveforms: time from previous segment's to current segment's trigger; for waveforms produced by a history function: time from first to last accumulated waveform's trigger.</td><td>Time from first to last acquisition — for average, histogram or sequence waveforms</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>duty</td><td>Duty cycle: Width as percentage of period.</td><td>width/period
(See Fig. D–2)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>f80–20%</td><td>Fall 80–20 %: Duration of pulse waveform's falling transition from 80% to 20%, averaged for all falling transitions between the cursors.</td><td>Average duration of falling 80–20 % transition</td><td>On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), top and base can default to maximum and minimum, giving, however, less predictable results.</td></tr>
<tr><td>f@level</td><td>Fall at level: Duration of pulse waveform's falling edges between transition levels.</td><td>Duration of falling edge between transition levels</td><td>On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), top and base can default to maximum and minimum, giving, however, less predictable results.</td></tr>
<tr><td>fall</td><td>Fall time: Measures time between two specified values on falling edges of a waveform. Fall times for each edge are averaged to produce final result.
Arguments
<table>
<tr><th>Threshold</th><th>Remote</th><th>Lower Limit</th><th>Upper Limit</th><th>Default</th></tr>
<tr><td>Lower</td><td>low</td><td>1 %</td><td>45 %</td><td>10 %</td></tr>
<tr><td>Upper</td><td>high</td><td>55 %</td><td>99 %</td><td>90 %</td></tr>
</table>
Threshold arguments specify two vertical values on each edge used to compute fall time. Formulas for upper and lower values:
$\text{lower value} = \text{lower threshold} \times \frac{amp}{100} + base$
$\text{upper value} = \text{upper threshold} \times \frac{amp}{100} + base$</td><td>Time at lower threshold – Time at upper threshold averaged over each falling edge

(See Fig. D–1)</td><td>On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), top and base can default to maximum and minimum, giving, however, less predictable results.</td></tr>
</table>

Parameter and what it does		Definition	Notes
first	Indicates value of horizontal axis at left cursor.	Horizontal axis value at left cursor *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Indicates location of left cursor. Cursors are interchangeable: for example, the left cursor may be moved to the right of the right cursor and* first *will give the location of the cursor formerly on the right, now on left.*
freq	Frequency: Period of cyclic signal measured as time between every other pair of 50 % crossings. Starting with first transition after left cursor, the period is measured for each transition pair. Values then averaged and reciprocal used to give frequency.	1/*period* *(See Fig. D–2)*	
last	Time from trigger to last (rightmost) cursor.	Time from trigger to last cursor *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Indicates location of right cursor. Cursors are interchangeable: for example, the right cursor may be moved to the left of the left cursor and* first *will give the location of the cursor formerly on the left, now on right.*
maximum	Measures highest point in waveform. Unlike *top*, does NOT assume waveform has two levels.	Highest value in waveform between cursors *(See Fig. D–1)*	*Gives similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of* data *of same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition. Computes horizontal axis location of rightmost non-zero bin of histogram — not to be confused with* maxp.
mean	Average of *data* for time domain waveform. Computed as centroid of distribution for a histogram. But when input is periodic time domain waveform, computed on an integral number of periods.	Average of *data* *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Gives similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of* data *of same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition.*

Parameter and what it does		Definition	Notes
median	The average of base and top values.	Average of *base* and *top* *(See Fig. D–2)*	
minimum	Measures the lowest point in a waveform. Unlike *base*, does NOT assume waveform has two levels.	Lowest value in waveform between cursors *(See Fig. D–1)*	*Gives similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of data of same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition.*
over–	Overshoot negative: Amount of overshoot following a falling edge, as percentage of amplitude.	$\frac{(base - minimum)}{ampl} \times 100$ *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Waveform must contain at least one falling edge. On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), may NOT give predictable results.*
over+	Overshoot positive: Amount of overshoot following a rising edge specified as percentage of amplitude.	$\frac{(maximum - top)}{ampl} \times 100$ *(See Fig. D–1)*	*Waveform must contain at least one rising edge. On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), may NOT give predictable results.*
period	Period of a cyclic signal measured as time between every other pair of 50 % crossings. Starting with first transition after left cursor, period is measured for each transition pair, with values averaged to give final result.	$\frac{1}{Mr}\sum_{i=1}^{Mr}\left(Tr_i^{50} - Tr_i^{50}\right)$ *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Where:* Mr *is the number of leading edges found,* Mf *the number of trailing edges found,* Tr_i^x *the time when rising edge* i *crosses the x % level, and* Tf_i^x *the time when falling edge* i *crosses the x % level.*
pkpk	Peak–to–peak: Difference between highest and lowest points in waveform. Unlike ampl, does not assume the waveform has two levels.	*maximum – minimum* *(See Fig. D–1)*	*Gives a similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of data of the same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition.*
phase	Phase difference between signal analyzed and signal used as reference.	Phase difference between signal and reference	
points	Number of points in the waveform between the cursors.	Number of points between cursors *(See Fig. D–2)*	

<table>
<tr><th>Parameter and what it does</th><th>Definition</th><th>Notes</th></tr>
<tr><td>r20–80%</td><td>Rise 20 % to 80 %: Duration of pulse waveform's rising transition from 20% to 80%, averaged for all rising transitions between the cursors.</td><td>Average duration of rising 20–80 % transition</td><td>On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), top and base can default to maximum and minimum, giving, however, less predictable results.</td></tr>
<tr><td>r@level</td><td>Rise at level: Duration of pulse waveform's rising edges between transition levels.</td><td>Duration of rising edges between transition levels</td><td>On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), top and base can default to maximum and minimum, giving, however, less predictable results.</td></tr>
<tr><td>rise</td><td>Rise time: Measures time between two specified values on waveform's rising edge (10–90 %). Rise times for each edge averaged to give final result.
Arguments
<table>
<tr><th>Threshold</th><th>Remote</th><th>Lower Limit</th><th>Upper Limit</th><th>Default</th></tr>
<tr><td>Lower</td><td>low</td><td>1 %</td><td>45 %</td><td>10 %</td></tr>
<tr><td>Upper</td><td>high</td><td>55 %</td><td>99 %</td><td>90 %</td></tr>
</table>
Threshold arguments specify two vertical values on each edge used to compute rise time.
Formulas for upper and lower values:
$\text{lower value} = \text{lower threshold} \times \frac{amp}{100} + base$
$\text{upper value} = \text{upper threshold} \times \frac{amp}{100} + base$</td><td>Time at upper threshold – Time at lower threshold averaged over each rising edge
(See Fig. D–1)</td><td>On signals NOT having two major levels (triangle or saw-tooth waves, for example), top and base can default to maximum and minimum, giving, however, less predictable results.</td></tr>
</table>

Parameter and what it does		Definition	Notes
rms	Root Mean Square of data between the cursors — about same as *sdev* for a zero-mean waveform.	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(v_i)^2}$ *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Gives similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of data of same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition. Where: v_i denotes measured sample values, and N = number of data points within the periods found up to maximum of 100 periods.*
sdev	Standard deviation of the data between the cursors — about the same as *rms* for a zero-mean waveform.	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(v_i - mean)^2}$ *(See Fig. D–2)*	*Gives similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of data of same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition. Where: v_i denotes measured sample values, and N = number of data points within the periods found up to maximum of 100 periods.*
t@level	Time at level: Time from trigger (t=0) to crossing at a specified level.	Time from trigger to crossing level	
top	Higher of two most probable states, the lower being *base*. This is characteristic of rectangular waveforms and represents the higher most probable state determined from the statistical distribution of *data* point values in the waveform.	Value of most probable higher state *(See Fig. D–1)*	*Gives similar result when applied to time domain waveform or histogram of* data *of same waveform. But with histograms, result may include contributions from more than one acquisition.*
width	Width of cyclic signal determined by examining 50 % crossings in data input. If first transmission after left cursor is a rising edge, waveform is considered to consist of positive pulses and *width* the time between adjacent rising and falling edges. Conversely, if falling edge, pulses are considered negative and *width* the time between adjacent falling and rising edges. For both cases, widths of all waveform pulses averaged for final result.	Width of first positive or negative pulse averaged for all similar pulses *(See Figs. 1, 2)*	*Similar to* fwhm, *which, however, applies only to histograms.*

Using ASCII-Stored Files

The ASCII waveform storage feature allows waveforms to be stored to a mass-memory device in any of three ASCII formats: Spreadsheet, MathCad and MATLAB. Each format is tailored for a commonly used analysis package. The user-interface changes supporting ASCII waveform storage are found in the STORE menu (*see Chapter 13*).

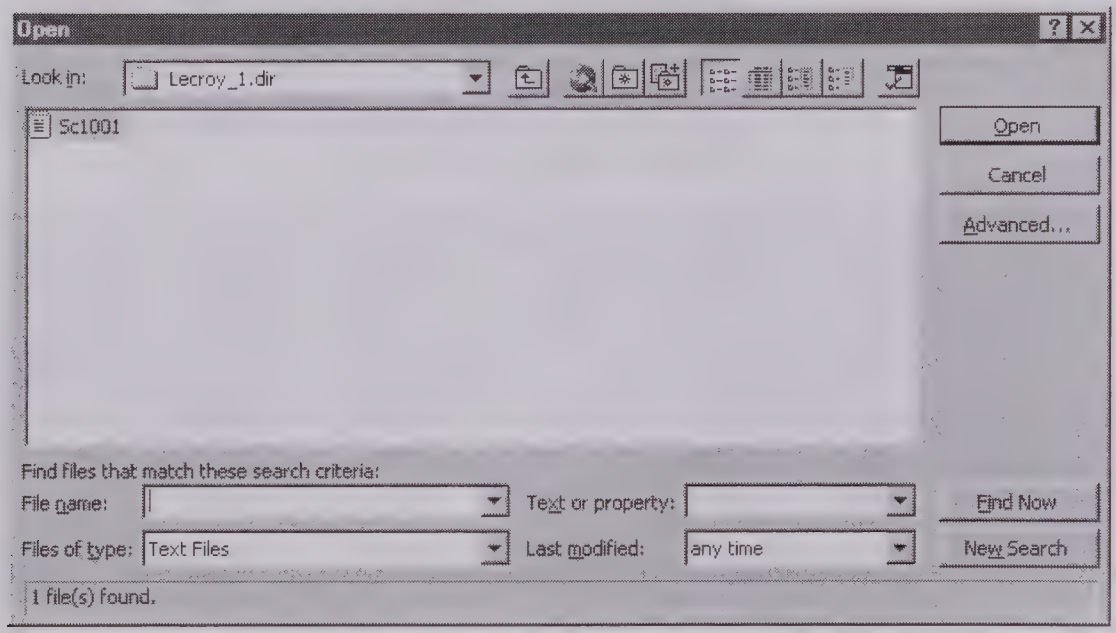
The table below summarizes the three formats' basic layout. Examples of the use of each format are given on the following pages. The user's PC screen will indicate the model name and serial number of the instrument being used.

Format	Header *Format includes some form of header before the data*	Time Values *Format stores time values with each amplitude value*	Amplitude Values *Format stores amplitude values*	Sequence Times *Header contains sequence time information for each sequence segment*	Multi-Segment *Format concatenates multiple segments of a sequence waveform*	Dual Array *Format allows dual-array data (i.e. Extrema, or complex FFT) to be stored*
Spreadsheet	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MathCad	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MATLAB	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

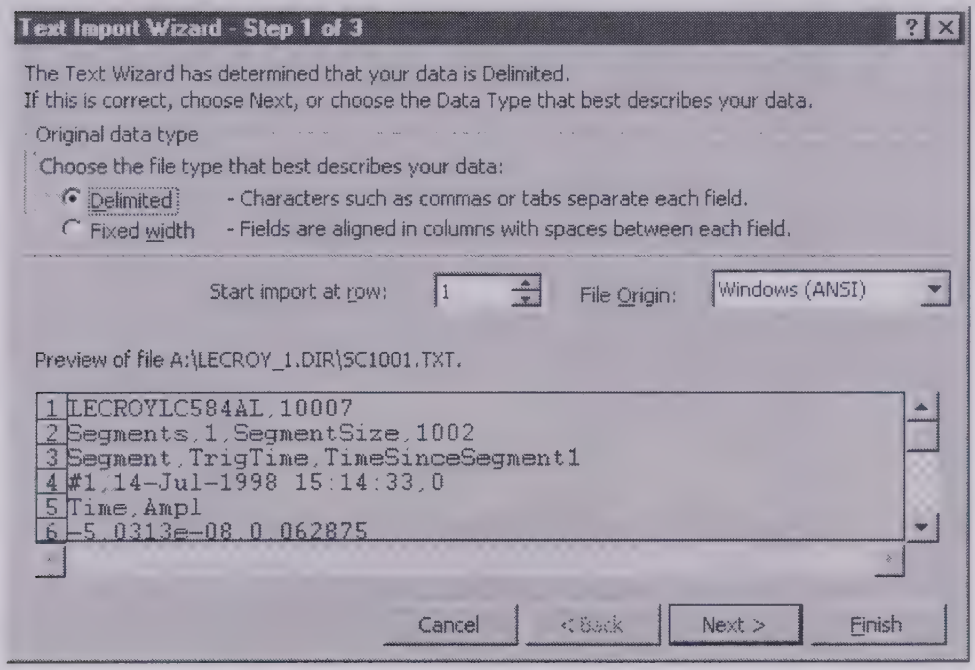
***Note:** Once stored in ASCII, waveforms cannot be recalled into the DSO.*

Using the Spreadsheet Format with Excel

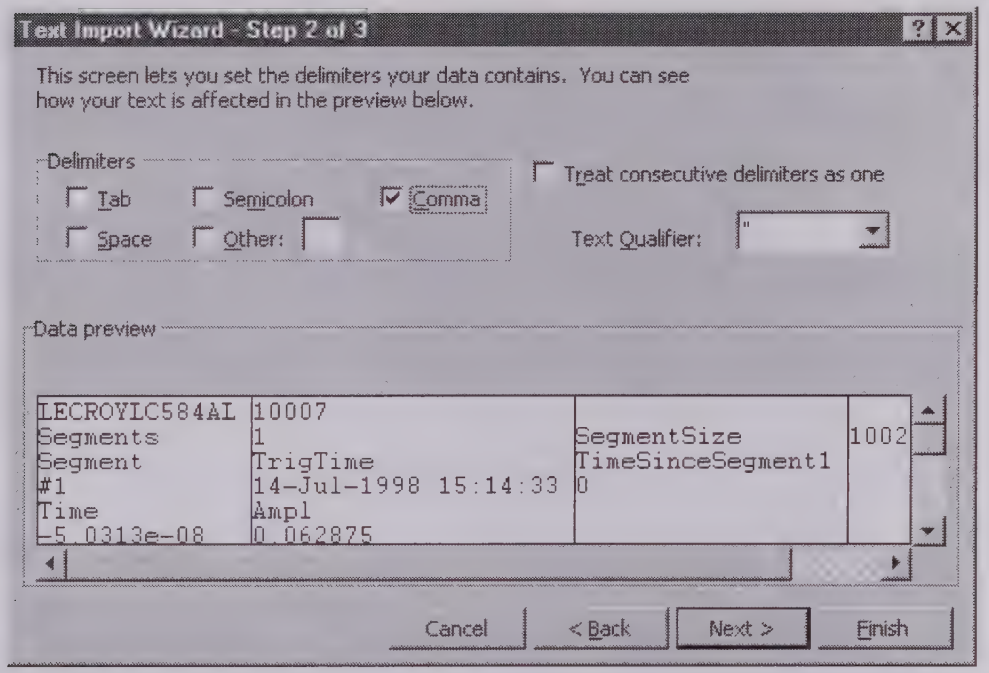
This example was created using Microsoft Excel for Windows. A waveform stored in Spreadsheet format may be read into Microsoft Excel using the File -> Open dialog as follows:



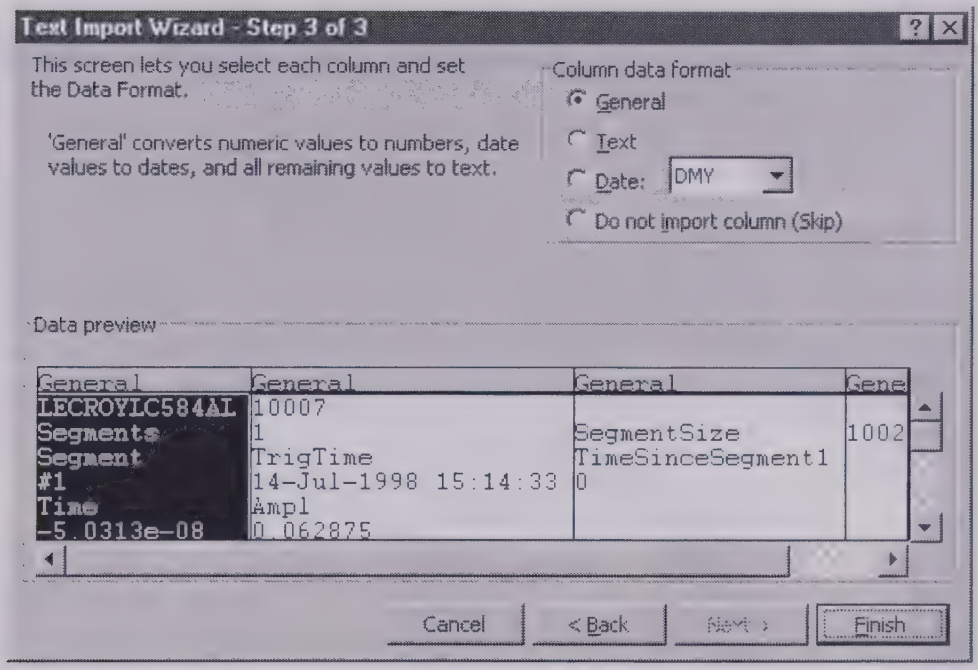
Excel will now ask for more information about the file type. Ensure that the 'Delimited' option is selected in the first step of the Wizard.


Text Import Wizard - Step 1 of 3
The Text Wizard has determined that your data is Delimited.
If this is correct, choose Next, or choose the Data Type that best describes your data.
Original data type
Choose the file type that best describes your data:
Delimited - Characters such as commas or tabs separate each field.
Fixed width - Fields are aligned in columns with spaces between each field.
Start import at row: 1
File Origin: Windows (ANSI)
Preview of file A:\LECROY_1.DIR\SC1001.TXT.
1 LECROYLC584AL,10007
2 Segments,1,SegmentSize,1002
3 Segment,TrigTime,TimeSinceSegment1
4 #1,14-Jul-1998 15:14:33,0
5 Time,Ampl
6 -5.0313e-08,0.062875
Cancel
< Back
Next >
Finish

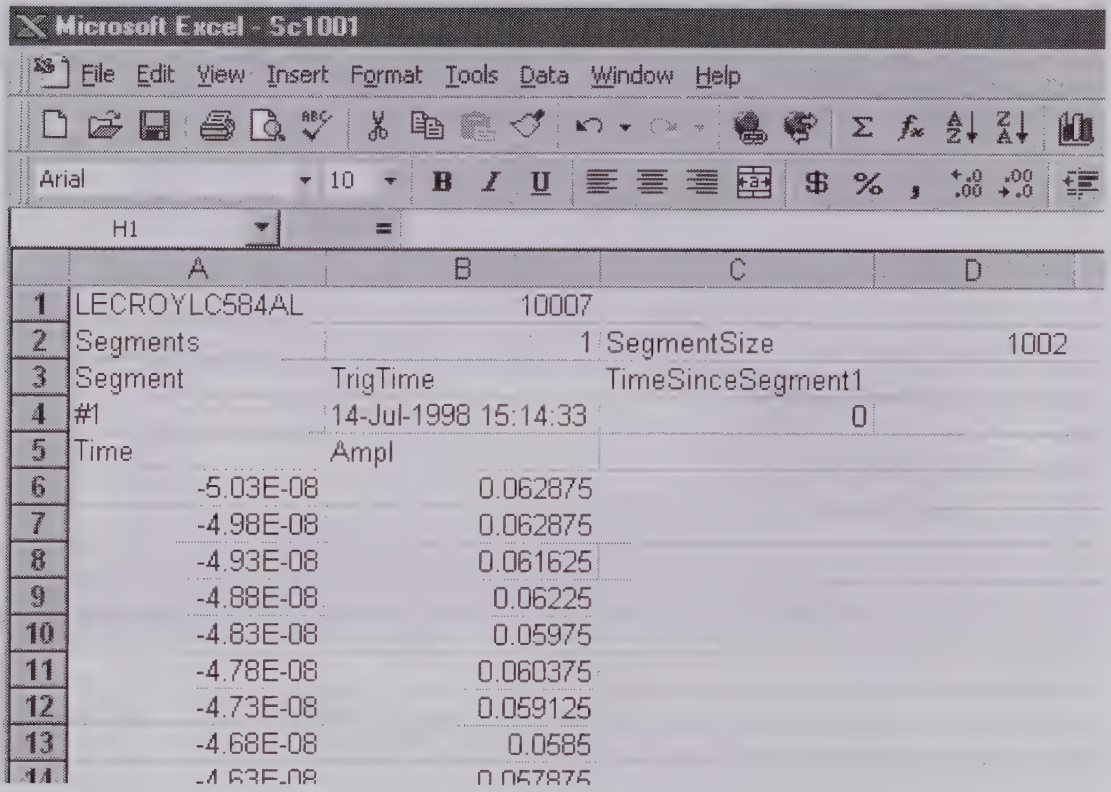
The next step allows the specific delimiter to be specified. The Spreadsheet format generated by the instrument uses a comma (,) to delimit columns. Ensure that this is selected.



The third and final step allows the format of the columns to be specified. The 'general' format for each column should be used (this is the default).



After clicking the Finish button, a display similar to that following should be shown.


Microsoft Excel - Sc1001

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

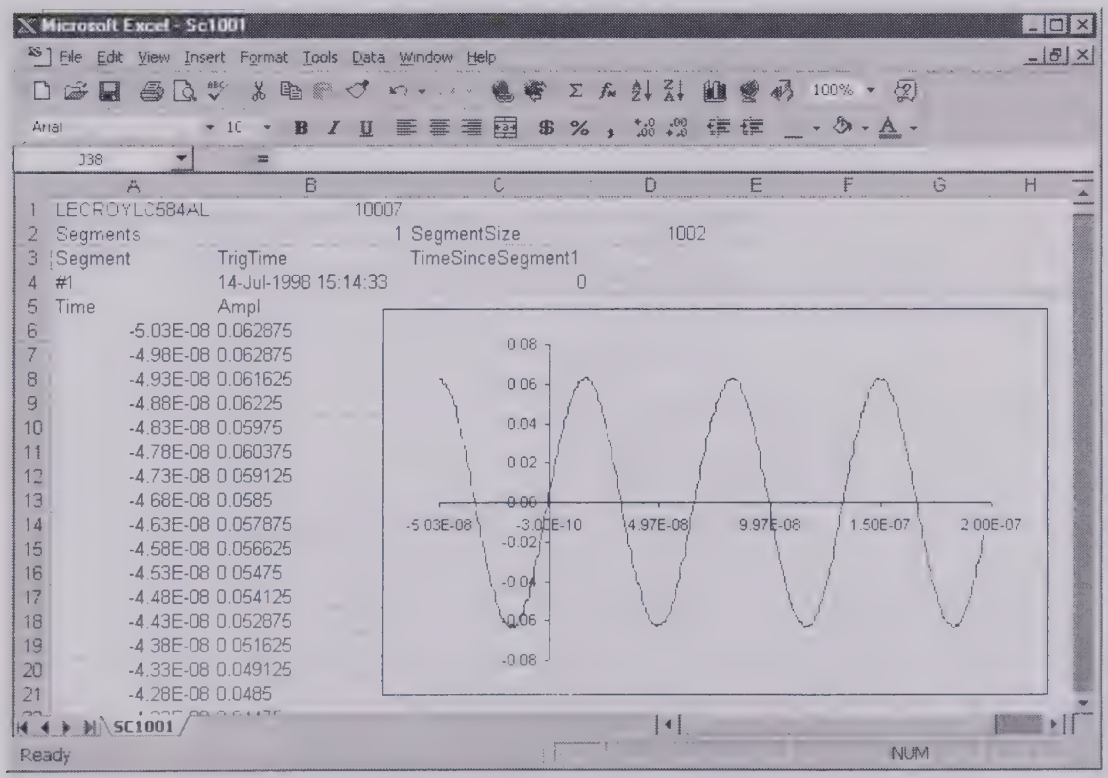
Arial 10

H1 =

	A	B	C	D
1	LECROYLC584AL	10007		
2	Segments	1	SegmentSize	1002
3	Segment	TrigTime	TimeSinceSegment1	
4	#1	14-Jul-1998 15:14:33	0	
5	Time	Ampl		
6	-5.03E-08	0.062875		
7	-4.98E-08	0.062875		
8	-4.93E-08	0.061625		
9	-4.88E-08	0.06225		
10	-4.83E-08	0.05975		
11	-4.78E-08	0.060375		
12	-4.73E-08	0.059125		
13	-4.68E-08	0.0585		
14	-4.63E-08	0.057875		

Plotting a Waveform

Plotting the data from a waveform requires the use of a scatter plot based on the data in the first two columns, with the first column used as the X values (from Row 6 in this example).



Extracting Segments from Sequence Waveforms

The header created for the Spreadsheet format contains all the information required to extract various elements of a sequence waveform. The following formulae may be used to extract information such as the start and end row of the data for a given segment, or the trigger time of a given segment.

SegmentStartRow := (*DesiredSegment* * D2) + B2 + 5

SegmentEndRow := *SegmentStartRow* + D2 -1

TrigTime= INDIRECT(ADDRESS(*DesiredSegment* +3;2;4))

TimeSinceFirstTrig= INDIRECT(ADDRESS(*DesiredSegment* +3;3;4))

Plotting the data from all segments using a scatter plot will result in all segments overlaid (similar to the oscilloscope's display of sequence traces in persistence mode).

Using MathCad

These examples were created using MathSoft's MathCad for Windows. ***On this page, the procedure for reading and graphing a file for a single segment is shown. The example on page E–10 is for multiple segments.***

Single-Segment

This single-segment example is valid for MathCad Versions 3.1 to 7:

$A := READPRN(file)$

$K := last\left(A^{\langle 0 \rangle}\right)$

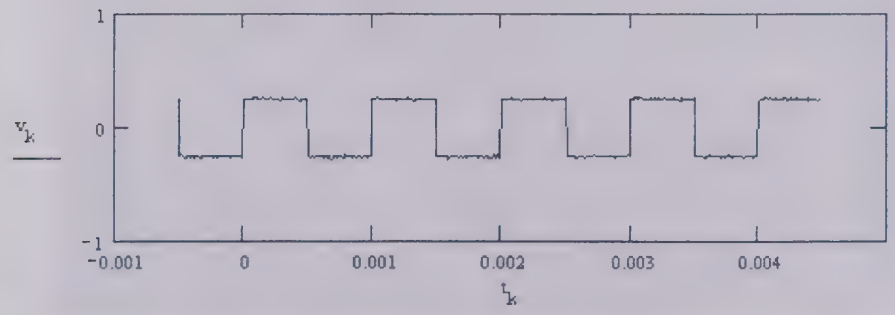
$A := submatrix(A, 2, K, 0, 1)$ **Create a submatrix containing data but no header**

$t := A^{\langle 0 \rangle}$ **Extract time vector**

$v := A^{\langle 1 \rangle}$ **Extract amplitude vector**

$K := last(t)$ **Determine index of last point**

$k := 0 .. K - 1$ **Create a ramp**



Multi-Segment Example

The following MathCad example demonstrates how to extract data from a given segment. The data used for this example consisted of two segments of three samples each, allowing the entire imported matrix to be shown.

Read data from file

$a := READPRN(sc1000)$

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 999 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1.1 & 2 \\ 1.2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1.1 \\ 1.1 & 2.1 \\ 1.2 & 3.1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Extracting the first segment only (or only segment if not sequence trace)

$n := \left(1 + a_{0,0}\right) .. \left(a_{0,0} + a_{0,1}\right)$

$$n = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$m := 0 .. 1$

$firstseg_{n-1-a_{0,0},m} = a_{n,m}$

$$firstseg = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1.1 & 2 \\ 1.2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Extracting a given segment

$numsegments := a_{0,0}$ Total number of segments in trace

$seglen := a_{0,1}$ Number of samples in each segment

$segment := 0$ Desired segment number

$segstart := 1 + numsegments + segment \cdot seglen$ Index of first point in segment

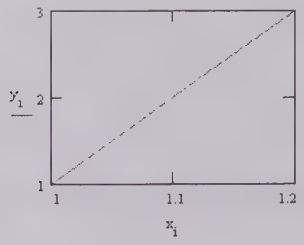
$segend := segstart + seglen - 1$ Index of last point in segment

$segtime := a_{segment+1,1}$ Segment trigger time

$x = a^{\langle 0 \rangle}$

$y := a^{\langle 1 \rangle}$

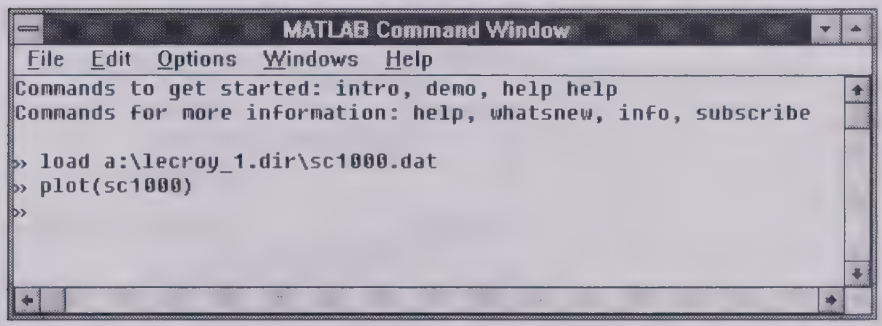
$i := segstart .. segend$

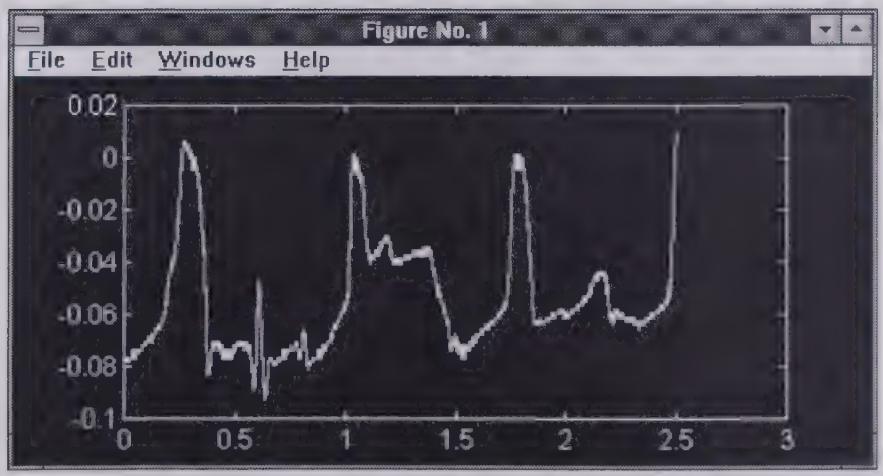


Using MATLAB

This example was created using MathWorks' MATLAB Version 4.2c.1 for Windows.

Reading and graphing a waveform in MATLAB may be achieved with two simple commands, as the following example shows. The first command loads the file into a matrix which is automatically named after the file. The second command plots this matrix.


MATLAB Command Window
File Edit Options Windows Help
Commands to get started: intro, demo, help help
Commands for more information: help, whatsnew, info, subscribe
» load a:\lecroy_1.dir\sc1000.dat
» plot(sc1000)
»



Detailed Description of the Formats

Spreadsheet **Format**

> ***Note:*** ***Fields in bold type are constants that are present in the output file as shown. Fields in italic are variables that are filled in when the file is written.***

<scopeid>, *<scopeserial>*
Segments, *<numseg>*, **SegmentSize**, *<numpts>*
Segment, **TrigTime**, **TimeSinceFirstSegment**
#1, <trigtime(1)>, **0.0**
...
#<numseg>, <trigtime(*numseg*)>, <trigdelta(*numseg*)>
Time, **Ampl**, **[Ampl1]**
x(0), *y(0)*, *[y1(0)]*
x(1), *y(1)*, *[y2(0)]*
...
*x(numgseg*numpts)*, *y(numseg*numpts)*, *[y1(numseg*numpts)]*

Single-Segment Example

```
LECROYLC584AL,LC58412345
Segments,1,SegmentSize,502
Segment,Trig Time,TimeSinceFirstSegment
#1,21 Mar 1990 9:37:08,0.0
Time,Ampl
0.0,1
0.1,2
...
```

Multi-Segment Example

```
LECROYLC584AL,LC58412345
Segments,3,SegmentSize,502
Segment,Trig Time,TimeSinceFirstSegment
#1,21 Mar 1990 9:37:08,0.0
#2,21 Mar 1990 9:37:13,5.0
#3,21 Mar 1990 9:37:15,7.0
Time,Ampl
0.0,1
0.1,2
...
0.0,1.1
0.0,2.1
...
0.0,1.05
0.0,2.05
```

Dual-Array Example

```
LECROYLC584AL,LC58412345
Segments,1,SegmentSize,502
Segment,Trig Time,TimeSinceFirstSegment
#1,21 Mar 1990 9:37:08,0.0
Time,Ampl
0.0,1.1,1.1
0.1,2.1,2.1
...
```

Note:

- ***The basic structure of the Spreadsheet format is a header containing scope identification information, followed by a block containing trigger times for multi-segment waveforms, followed by the data itself.***
- ***This format is compatible with the ASCII import of the LeCroy LW4xx Arbitrary Function Generator.***

MathCad

Format

<"scopeid">
<"TriggerTime">

<numseg>	*<numpts>*	
Segment	**TimeSinceFirstSegment**	
1	0.0	
...	...	
<numseg>	<trigdelta(*numseg*)>	
Time	**Ampl**	**Ampl1**
<x(0)>	*<y(0)>*	*[<y1(0)>]*
<x(1)>	*<y(1)>*	*[<y1(1)>]*
...	...	
*<x(numgseg*numpts)>*	*<y(numseg*numpts)>*	
	*[<y1(numseg*numpts)>]*	

Single-Segment Example

```
"LECROYLC584AL,LC58412345"
"23-March-90,12:44:23"
1               502
Segment         TimeSinceFirstSegment
1               0.0
Time            Ampl
0.0             1
0.1             2
.....
```

Multi-Segment Example

```
"LECROYLC584AL,LC58412345"
"23-March-90,12:44:23"
3                502
Segment          TimeSinceFirstSegment
1                0.0
2                5.0
3                7.0
Time             Ampl
0.0              1
0.1              2
.....
0.0              1.1
0.1              2.1
.....
0.0              1.05
0.1              2.05
```

Note:

- *The format created for MathCad is very similar to the Spreadsheet format, but with some differences due to the way MathCad interprets the header information.*
- *One of the most important of these is that the absolute trigger time is only given for the first segment, with relative times (in units of seconds) being included for each segment.*
- *Another difference is that the scope identification and trigger time are wrapped in quotes to ensure that MathCad does not attempt to import them.*

MATLAB Files

Format

y(0)
y(1)
...
*y(numseg*numpts)*

Single-Segment Example

```
1.0
1.1
1.2
...
4.5
```

Notes

- ***The MATLAB format is simple, without header information and having amplitude values only.***
- ***Multiple segments will be appended without a separator.***
- ***Only one value from the pair of amplitude values present in a dual-array will be stored.***

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